

Selected Papers Relative
to the Grant of Titles and
Honorary Distinctions in
India



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SELECTED PAPERS

RELATIVE TO THE

GRANT OF TITLES AND HONORARY DISTINCTIONS IN INDIA.

No. 1.

From C. BEADON, Esquire, Officiating Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, to G. F. EDMONDSON, Esquire, Secretary to the Government of India, with the Governor General's No. 3029, dated Fort William, the 3rd September, 1858.

I AM directed to forward, for the consideration of the Right Hon'ble the Governor General, copy of a Despatch from the Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras, No. 446, dated the 14th July last, on the subject of bestowing Titles and other honorary distinctions on the Natives of India.

2. The President in Council takes this opportunity of recording his opinion upon this important question.

3. His Honor in Council does not think that it would be expedient to take away the exclusively Military character of the Order of Merit, or that any advantage would be gained by so doing. But he is of opinion that in addition to the Titles which the Government now bestows under the general and somewhat vague provisions of the Resolution* of the 30th May, 1829,

* A copy sent. distinctions of a minor character for services and merits of a civil and political nature should be systematically conferred. There is no race in the world, His Honor in Council remarks, with whom distinctions of this nature would be productive of more good than the Asiatic subjects of Her Majesty.

4. There can be no doubt of the propriety, His Honor in Council observes, of prohibiting the Native subjects of Her Majesty

from receiving Titles from Native Princes, real or titular. An independent Indian ruler has of course a right to bestow titles on his own subjects, but not on those of another Government, at any rate without its consent. Titular Princes, such as the late Nawab of the Carnatic, or the Nawab Nazim of Bengal, should not be allowed to continue the practice of bestowing Titles ; and perhaps the same rule should hold good with regard to dépendent and feudatory Indian chiefs.

5. His Honor in Council does not agree with the Madras Government in thinking that Titles should be bestowed on European British subjects, otherwise than by the Crown directly.

6. On the whole, the President in Council desires to recommend that a Committee ~~should~~ be appointed to consider and report on the whole subject, under such general instructions as may be thought proper.

7. The following are some of the points to which, as it occurs, to His Honor in Council, the enquiries of such a Committee might be directed :

Whether there should be any, and if any, what change in the Titles now given.

Whether there should be any, and if any, what additional Titles and honorary distinctions.

Whether the bestowal of Titles should be accompanied by any, and if any, by what decorations or substantial advantages, or both.

Whether Titles should be in any case hereditary.

Whether the same Titles should be granted for social position, for long good conduct, and for special service, ~~or~~ whether they should be different.

Whether there should be one, or more than one order, and whether in each order the number of Titles of each grade or class should be limited or unlimited.

Whether the Governments of Bombay and Madras should continue to exercise the power of conferring Titles and distinctions, or

whether the power throughout India should be confined to the Governor General in Council.

Whether the highest Titles, especially those which it may be thought proper to reserve for the chiefs and dependent and feudatory States, should not be granted by the Crown, on the recommendation of the Governor General in Council.

8. The President in Council considers it highly desirable that the subject should be redeemed from its present state of obscurity and uncertainty, and placed on the same clear and well understood footing as it was under the Mogul Empire, and as the grant of honors and distinctions is in the United Kingdom; and he conceives that there could not be a more opportune time for carrying out such a measure than the present, when recent occurrences have raised in many quarters a claim to the grant of honors from the Government, and when the administration of India has been transferred by Act of Parliament from the East India Company to the Crown.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) C. BEADON.

No. 2.

From T. PYCBOTT, Esquire, Chief Secretary to the Government of Fort. St. George, to the Secretary to the Government of India, in the Foreign Department, No. 446, dated the 14th July 1858.

I AM directed by the Governor in Council to submit, for the consideration of the Government of India, the accompanying copy of a letter from the Government Agent at Chepauk.

2. In this letter, Dr. Balfour brings to notice the Titles and Insignia which have been bestowed upon his relatives and dependants by the late Nawab of the Carnatic, and he enlarges on the desire for such distinctions felt by the natives of India generally, and the use that may be made of that feeling in stimulating and rewarding loyalty and good service.

3. The impression at which he has arrived is, that the Orders of British India and of Merit might be extended to all classes of subjects in India, Europeans as well as Natives, servants of the State, as well

private gentlemen, and that they should not, as at present, be confined to the Native Army.

4. The Governor in Council instructs me to state that he is disposed to concur generally in Dr. Balfour's views, and that, deeming the subject one of much importance, he has been induced to submit that Officer's letter to the Government of India. The crisis through which our Indian Empire has lately passed, has elicited numerous instances of fidelity and good conduct among all orders of the people, and it may deserve consideration whether the opportunity should not be taken for the public recognition of such services, either in the mode suggested by Dr. Balfour, or in some similar manner.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) T. PYCROFT.

From Surgeon E. G. BALFOUR, Government Agent at Chepauk, and Pay-master of Carnatic Stipends, to T. PYCROFT, Esquire, Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, No. 987 of G. A. dated 2nd June 1858.

AMONGST other native gentlemen who at present are servants in the Office of the Government Agent at Chepauk, and Pay-master of Carnatic Stipends, and performing, under my orders, duties connected with the records of the Carnatic Sircar, there are six who hold titles from the late Nabobs, whose salaries and avocations are as follows :

TITLE.	SALARIES.	HOW EMPLOYED.
	Rs.	
Rajah Girdharee Lall, Kreeatwunt Bahadoor	115	In the records of the Dast-i-Khans or household.
Rajah Eshwur Doss, Dyawunt Bahadoor	70	Khandan Serishtadare; relatives of Nabob.
Rajah Hoolas Rae, Dya Bahadoor ...	70	Persian Department.
Rajah Tej Bhan Bahadoor	70	Hoozoor Meersawannee.
Rae Ruttam Chund	60	Dewanee Records.
Rae Futteh Chund*	80	Sadarut Do.

* Since accepted other employ.

2. On searching the Sircar records, I find that since the 31st of July, 1801, the date of accession of the Nabob Azeem-ood-Dowlah Bahadoor, there have been 890 Titles distributed by that Nabob and his successors amongst 704 persons.

3. The numbers and grades of each of the Titles given have been :

GIVEN TO MAHOMEDANS.	GIVEN TO HINDOOS.
No.	No.
10 Nabob.	15 Wunt
2 Jah.	0 Maharajah.
8 Omrah.	18 Rajah Raian.
23 Mulk.	1 Rao Raean.
89 Dowlah.	5 Bahadoor
84 Jung.	76 Rao.
142 Bahadoor.	
281 Khan.	115
589	

and the names of the individuals on whom these titles have been bestowed will be found in Appendix A.

4. In addition to these titles, there were bestowed certain badges or emblems of honor and rank, which could not be used by any individual unless especially permitted by the Nabobs to do so; the permissions to use which, issued since 1801, have been as under :—

HINDOOSTANEE.	ENGLISH.
Palkee Sada.	Plain Palanquin.
Palkee Jhallardar.	Mogaley Do.
Chowur.	Chowree of feathers.
Chutree.	Umbrella.
Aftabagheeree.	Sun Shade.
Malboos-i-Khas.	Nabob's apparel.
Alleebuud.	Full Dress Belt.
Romala Shawl.	Shawl.
Shawl.	Large Shawl.
Do. Shalla.	Double Shawl.
Jama-i-Shall.	Shawl Dress.
Jama-i-Durdamun.	Brocade Dress.
Neem-Asteen.	Boat Cloak.
Khilat.	Dress of honor.
Jowahir Sar-a-pa.	Complete set of Jewels.
Jowahir.	Separate Jewels.
Siphar.	Shield.
Shumshare.	Scimeter.
Peshkubz.	Dagger.
Nowbur.	Martial Drum.
Ghayrial.	Gong.
Musnud.	Musnud.
Shameeanah.	Canopy.
Nalki.	Open Palankeen.
Alum Nakara.	Standard and Kettle Drums.
Feel-ba-saz-i-Telai-o-Jareeb.	Elephant with Gold Trappings and measuring rod.
Mahi Maratib.	Fish Standard.
Kalumdan Mye-luwazimah.	Inkstand, complete with its appurtenances.
Munsob of from 100 to 52,000.	Commandants of from 100 to 52,000.

5. These badges may be regarded as equivalent of the honorary emblems familiar to us in Europe, where, as is so well known, whether it be a Crown, or a Collar; a Star, a Cross, or a Chain; a Medal, a Device, or a Seal; a Spur of honor, or Sword of honor; a Mantle, a Ribbon or Scarf, or any of the standards designative of Military and Naval Rank; such badges are, in their various extents, the same, and Sovereigns are enabled by their means, to recompense merit of every denomination, without making the gifts burthensome to their subjects, neither the treasure of the State nor the Civil Pension List being in any way affected by such Royal benefactions.

6. When permission was granted, the emblem sanctioned was presented; but, in addition to these, presents of other articles were favorite modes of showing honor to servants, and all these marks of favor were prized by the Sircar servants. It is true that there are to be met with in the world, men with the moral sentiments so exalted as to feel a sufficient reward for all their labors in a consciousness of their own honest desire to do their duty. These, however, are not the multitude, and we notice that in all ages rulers have resorted to other means to stimulate the slothful, and recognise the zealous. Speaking of the mass, we know that men labor and serve to earn money, or honor, or love, these being the three great objects of desire in life. During our rule in the East, however, we have mainly been holding out to the people of those countries only one of these three, yet we know that, whatever might be their admiration, respect, or esteem for us, we are, by our physical habits, our morals and intellects, too far removed from the natives of India to obtain their love; we have strewn honors among them with such sparing hand, that I have only met with one person in our civil employ holding any, and he only the lowest of the Hindoo Titles; and even our money payments have been less in amounts to native servants than to those of our own countrymen, although we all know that many natives, and particularly of late years, fret at seeing Europeans enjoying emoluments for offices which reasonably or unreasonably natives believe themselves capable of filling with equal ability; we have used only the mere money incitement, as if forgetful that if men are to be ruled and governed and urged to high endeavours, these objects can best be attained by holding out for their aim, or by offering to their view, objects for their attainment, and inducements to exertion, as varied as their own desires, and there are few of us but have observed that as education has spread amongst the native

community, we have not been able to satisfy the cravings and longings of those amongst the educated of these people, whose minds are filled with ambitious views.

7. Indeed, throughout the whole period of our rule in our Eastern Empire, our governing has been particularly marked by our abstaining from efforts to rouse the higher and better feelings of the servants, by the holding out to them the prospect of attaining such honors as ambitious and noble minds may ever legitimately feel desirous for, and strive to obtain.

8. We know the full value of orders of honorary distinction, for we have seen them so long before our eyes in Europe, and see so many of our countrymen decorated with them here, that the estimation in which they are held is quite familiar to us. We have also, by the formal act of the Government of India, in establishing the Order of British India and Order of Merit, seen that Government recognised the fact that the natives of these countries are susceptible of being influenced by the desire of distinction, and the appended list will prove that this desire is as great, if not greater, than that which influences ourselves.

9. I think that we have been defective in our arrangements to supply the varied wants of our servants.

10. The Order of British India and Order of Merit have not only never supplied the deficiency, but they have not even taken the position which they might have done, and have therefore, so far as results seem to show, not brought that power to our rule for which they were susceptible. Why this should have occurred it is not perhaps difficult to indicate.

11. They were instituted only for a class of Military servants of the Empire, and even amongst them the Order of Merit has been bestowed with most sparing hand, there being at present only two Native Soldiers in the Madras Army, of all grades, who are members of it.

12. But the great defect in the rules of the Orders, has been their exclusive character.

13. By the Statutes the Military only, and even of this class of our servants, only the Native Soldiery, are eligible to be elected members of the two Orders. And, though this is the case, it must be admitted that while the Native Soldiery are not the only, they are not the servants of the State who best earn claims to distinction, and so to restrict admission into the Orders has had a treble disadvantage. It creates a separation amongst portions of our servants who should not be separated.

should all be stimulated by one common zeal and aim ; it lowers the value of the Order in the eyes of the natives themselves, as they all must see that the bravest of the European Soldiers never wear to adorn it, and it creates amongst the Europeans, in all branches of the Public Service, as also amongst all the natives in our civil employ, the impression either that they are not deserving of the Orders of British India and of Merit, or, that the Orders are not worthy of them. Yet, it may not be questioned that there is not in India any European servant of the State, however exalted may be his rank, however great his ability, however comprehensive his knowledge, or how great soever his deeds, but would accept with honest pride and feelings of just emotion the offer to enrol him as a member of the Order of Merit of British India, provided the State bestowed it in recognition of his merits.

14. In such matters as this, it is not what is bestowed, but the motives for, and the associates in the bestowal, by which the value of the gift is estimated, and proper selecting is alone required. I feel assured it will be allowed that, as a body of men, there is no Government which has ever had fewer sluggards, and no rulers have ever had so many earnest men as amongst the Englishmen serving the Indian Government, and I know that the proudest amongst them would feel honored if he were recognised by the State as having been of use to India, and were granted either of the two Orders of British India in token of the State's recognition of his merits. For honoring in this manner, due selection, as was before said, is all in all. There is no order, however illustrious, but may receive additional lustre by the enrolment amongst its members of an honorable name, and there is no Order but may be kept low or brought into disrepute by the humbleness of its aims, or its too lavish or unworthy bestowal.

15. Under these views alone, it seems to me that to restrict the Orders of British India and that of Merit to the Military servants of the State was a mistake : but to restrict them to the Native Soldiery, the least worthy part of the Military, was a greater error, and one which could only have the effect of keeping it as the lowest of the Orders granted for services by Sovereign rulers.

16. The institution of Orders of Knighthood, as a means of recompence for heroic achievements, is traceable to a high antiquity, but the object of the Orders of Europe is not confined to reward Military valour displayed in the field, but to promote loyalty, literary pursuits, and other virtues, and accordingly see them conferred on those who deserve well of the State

and of its ruler ; on men as well as women ; bestowed alike for valour in the field ; for civil services to the nation in the closet, or at the bar, or in the senate ; as also for diplomatic services at home or abroad.

17. In my position, seeing a dynasty passing away, seeing six men with different titles serving under me, and knowing from the Sircar Records how liberally the Carnatic Nabobs have bestowed on their own relations, on their servants, and even on our subjects, Mahomedan and Hindoo Titles, it has seemed advisable to bring the subject specially to the notice of Government, as I believe it would add greatly to our power of governing the people of these countries were we to use other than the mercenary means which we have hitherto solely been employing. I can believe that there are many occasions where Government would find it useful to bestow titles amongst its servants, and as one of these I might instance that of a servant in a position where his services are really useful, where it is impossible to reward him with increase of salary or remove him to another office, to whom the grant of a Title would be accepted by himself as sufficient, and would be regarded by others as an honorable recognition by the State of their servant's labors. There are men amongst the Hindoos and Mahomedans, as there are amongst ourselves, who disregard Titles, and I have known instances of such ; but there are others whom I have known, whose great desire to possess Titles has marked the high estimation they put upon them, and thus shown how much they might have been influenced to exertion by ourselves, had we too held out to them the prospect of attaining the honors to which their longings extended. As one of these cases, I may mention that of a subject and servant,

1. Letter from D. White, Esquire, Collector of Nellore, dated 10th January 1850, No. 7.

2. Letter to His Highness the Nabob, dated 14th January 1850.

3. Letter from His Highness the Nabob, dated 13th August 1853.

4. Letter to His Highness the Nabob, dated 13th August 1853.

5. Letter from His Highness the Nabob, dated 15th August 1853.

6. Letter to Chief Secretary to Government, dated 17th August 1853, No. 43.

7. Extract Minutes of Consultation, dated 23rd August 1853, No. 810.

8. Letter to His Highness the Nabob dated 26th August 1853, No. 143.

as his case is within the knowledge of Government, having been the subject of the correspondence as per margin. It is that of Kader Ally, Tehsildar of Kaolce, who had been granted the Titles of Khan and Bahadoor by the late Nabob, Mahomed Ghous, and he made persevering efforts to obtain the recog-

nition of our Government to the same, by striving to make Government the medium of transmitting to him the seal granted for Titles.

18. There was another man well known in this place, Streenavassa Pillay, a Hindoo, who was generally regarded as superior to such matters; but whose great desire in later life was to obtain a Title from the Nabob of the Carnatic, and he did at length obtain one for himself, viz. that of Rajah Streenawassa Pillay, Indra Bahadoor, and one for his adopted son, Sreeman Ramanooja Moonea Pillay, the lad now at the High School, viz., of Rajah Sreeman Ramanooja Moonea Pillay, Karan Wunt Bahadoor.

19. When I asked the Pillay what had induced *him* to seek for Titles or accept them, his answer to me was illustrative of the various motives for action among men; for he replied: "I was desirous of having this mark of favor from *my* Sovereign to elevate me in the favor of my countrymen." Yet who shall say but that having felt he had exhausted all the favors of our Government, he only resorted to a Native Court to get that which he so much had longed for, which we might easily have granted to a man of his position, but yet did not think of giving, or would not give.

20. The European custom of hereditary Titles is here wholly unknown; all titles, &c. are personal, and any creation of ours should equally be so; and this practice wholly prevents the possibility of Titles descending to an impoverished man, as it would lapse with the life of the first holder. It is not the custom of the Eastern Courts to grant money payments along with Titles: on some occasions such grants are made, but it is not general, nor usual to do so, and need not be adopted by us: and the numbers, names, and salaries of Titled Sircar servants still surviving,

* See the word "alive" in column of remarks. see Appendix B,* sufficiently show that these people at least do not consider a large income and expenditure as in any way connected with, or necessary to be possessed by the holder of a Title.

21. What the new honor should consist of, may be matter of discussion: it will be observed that the Mahomedan Sovereign grants Mahomedan Titles to Mahomedans, and Hindoo Titles to Hindoos, to men as well as to women, and it would therefore seem quite in keeping for us to grant to our native subjects and servants such Titles and honors as we think suitable.

22. The source of honor amongst our nation is our Gracious Sovereign. I am of opinion that if honors be given, they ought to be in the name of Her Majesty, on the recommendation of the Govern-

ments of the Presidencies by the Governor General of India, but in all cases in this land of change, without any delay.

23. My own impression is, that the Orders of British India and of Merit might be extended to all classes of subjects in India, Europeans as well as Natives, servants of the State, as well as private gentlemen, and I subjoin copy of the orders instituting the two Orders of British India and of Merit to show their applicability.

24. The object of my present recommendation being to increase the power of our rule, it is a legitimate question to ask if the Native States, who have showered down with most open hands on their subjects Titles and Honors of every degree, have derived any advantages from their liberality in matters which cost them nothing of money value at least.

25. For a reply to that question we may look to the results of our own Rule, and recognise that, though we are the power that has subsisted longer than any executive Indian Kingdom which is either now extant, or which we have ever succeeded to, we have conquered and held our conquests by our intellectual power, our resolution, and material resources; but we know that the natives of the country, whether Mahomedans or Hindoos, look to their Native Sovereigns, whether Mahomedan or Hindoo, rather than to us, and in taking lessons how to rule in future, it may be advantageous to take into consideration the subject of granting Titles to our own countrymen and to the people of this country. Though greatly followed by the extinct Native rulers, who retain the affection of the people, the plan has never yet been tried by us, and it seems to me one well meriting our serious consideration.

26. Were I to be asked to state the exact estimate of the value which I put on the duty of exercising the exclusive right to grant Titles, as an engine of power to us and token of our supremacy, I would answer, that when, 24 years ago, we assumed to ourselves the exclusive right to exercise the regal prerogative of coining money, the equally regal right exclusively to grant Titles should also then have been assumed and acted on, for the duties of coining money and granting Titles, in all ages and amongst all people, have ever been equally regarded as pertaining to Sovereignty alone to perform, and if we longer delay to assume the right we have left unexercised, we will, in my opinion, be abandoning a prerogative which all rulers exercise with great advantage to their

and be throwing back upon Native States all those minds which look to Titles as objects of their ambition, and deprive ourselves of the position which we may with ease assume amongst people whose ostentation and love of display are proverbial.

(True Copy)

(Signed) T. PYCROFT.

No. 3.

Resolution of Government, dated the 30th May 1829.

READ a petition from Koonwur Bunwarree Lal, Zemindar of Pooladsee, in the Moorshedabad Division, soliciting the titles of Maharajah and Bahadoor, and stating the grounds of his claim to the consideration of Government.

Read a petition from, Koonwur Rajnarain Ræe, an inhabitant of Calcutta, praying to be allowed to succeed to the title of Maharajah and Bahadoor, held by his father and grandfather successively, under grants from the throne of Delhi, made with the sanction and concurrence of the British Government.

Read a petition from Ræe Putnce Mull, praying to be acknowledged by the title of Rajah, and offering to build a stone bridge over the Curumnassa.

RESOLUTION.—The question of conferring titles or other marks of distinction on the native subjects of the British Government of India, is one of acknowledged importance, and has long occupied the attention of the Governor General in Council.

The principle that this essential and peculiar attribute of sovereign rule should properly be exercised by the British Government, direct, instead of as formerly through the medium of the Pageant Court of Delhi, was first asserted and established by the Marquis of Hastings, at an early period of his administration: but the occasions for conferring ranks upon inhabitants of the British Provinces were, from whatever cause, of rare occurrence, during the Government of that nobleman: and it was not until the accession of Lord Amherst, that the practice of granting titles came actively and systematically into use. During Lord Amherst's administration, titles and various other honorary distinctions were bestowed on several ~~notable~~ stable and meritorious individuals, both in acknowledgment of services

and good conduct during the prevalence of war on the Eastern Frontier, and to reward and encourage acts of public spirit and liberality, connected with the formation of roads, the endowment of Colleges, and the promotion of other institutions tending to the welfare and improvement of the native community. The value attached to grants of this nature by the Society at large, is sufficiently evidenced in the numerous applications which have been brought forward at different times, and are now actually depending for similar distinctions.

Entirely concurring in the wisdom and expediency of the course above indicated, the Governor General in Council has no hesitation in determining to follow up the line marked out by preceding administrations, relative to conferring rank on our native subjects; but His Lordship is at the same time desirous, both that some rules should be framed for regulating the distribution of titles, and also that the principles on which the Government intends to act in granting them, and the proper channel of application, should be more generally known and distinctly understood than appears at present to be the case.

The following general heads of instruction are accordingly laid down for the guidance of all concerned, subject to such modifications, as further experience may suggest.

Applications for titles, or other honorary distinctions, on the part of natives residing in the interior, shall be addressed to the Commissioners in their respective divisions, and to the Chief Local Political Authority in the following cases, viz.:

Moorshedabad Division	...	Agent to the Governor General.
Patna ditto	..	Mr. Douglas.
Benares ditto	..	Agent to the Governor General.
Saugor and Nerbudda Territory...		Ditto.
Delhi Territory	..	Resident.

Similar applications on the part of the native inhabitants of the Presidency and the immediate vicinity shall be addressed direct to the Persian Secretary to Government.

It is desirable, in order to preserve unity and consistency of procedure, that all reports to Government, on the subject of titles and honorary distinctions, should be made through one and the same channel; and the Persian Office, which has hitherto been the medium of dispensing

favors, presents itself as the most obviously suited for the sort of duty. The Commissioners and other authorities concerned will therefore address themselves to that officer.

Titles will be awarded on the following grounds :

1st.—Services during war, and in times of public emergency.

2nd.—Meritorious conduct on the part of Landholders in the interior, in aiding the Police; distinguished success in improving the agricultural system and the manufactures of the country; and the execution of important public works.

3rd.—Liberal contributions for the support and promotion of beneficial public undertakings and institutions.

Under the native Government, titles were not, strictly speaking, hereditary, nor shall they hereafter be so considered; but due attention will at all times be paid to claims, which may be considered by men of family to succeed to the rank enjoyed by their ancestors.

The Governor General in Council will, of course, in all cases, exercise the most unfettered discretion in approving or rejecting applications, and the authorities recommending will advert carefully to the general character and circumstances of the candidate, so that the value of the distinction be not lowered in the public estimation, by the admission of unworthy members of society to a participation in the honors and privileges of rank.

The title to be conferred on the Mahomedan subjects of the British Empire in India will be ordinarily those of Khan Bahadoor and Nawab, with the style and epithets appropriate thereto. Those which belong to the Hindoos, are *Rae Rajah Bahadoor*, *Maharajah Bahadoor*, and certain designations peculiar to the mercantile classes, such as *Sob Seth*, &c. &c. Titles of the higher* grade should, generally speaking, be reserved for the Sovereigns of Feudatory and Dependent States, except in cases of extraordinary merit.

* NOTE.—These are *Maharaja*, *Raja-gam*, *Dhi Raj*, *Rajadhi*, *Raj Nurinder*, *Peerjindab*, *Mohender*, &c. &c.

Honorary distinctions and rewards for services performed in the field by Commissioned Native Officers of the army will be conferred, as heretofore, on the recommendation of the Commander-in-Chief.

In order to give effect to the wish of His Lordship in Council, that the views and intentions of Government regarding the grant of titles to native subjects should be more generally promulgated, copies of this

Resolution will be communicated to the several Commissioners and Political authorities named above, for their information and guidance; and that they may cause its purport to be known and understood amongst the respectable classes of inhabitants within their respective divisions.

Ordered also, that copies be recorded for information in the Judicial and Territorial Departments.

(Signed) A. STERLING.

No. 4.

From C BRANON, Esquire, Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, No. 3048, dated Fort William, the 25th May 1859.

WITH reference to your letter No. 446, dated the 14th July last, I am directed by the Governor General in Council to forward copy of a communication from the Hon'ble the President in Council, No. 3029, dated the 3rd September last, and of the Resolution of the 30th May 1829, therein referred to.

2. His Excellency in Council would be glad to receive from the Right Hon'ble the Governor in Council any further suggestions regarding the grant of titles and honorary distinctions to natives of India, for services in a Civil capacity, as well as to Chiefs and other native gentlemen of rank, wealth, and influence, to whom such distinctions have hitherto been usually granted.

3. The Governor General in Council recognizes the necessity for placing the whole subject in a clear and intelligible footing, and of defining precisely the titles which shall hereafter be given to Native Chiefs and gentlemen, the rank and precedence which shall accompany such titles, the forms of address which shall be invariably observed, the classes of persons to which, and the services for which, each description of title will be granted, and other particulars necessary to constitute the body of persons to whom such titles are conferred, a recognized institution of the Empire.

4. It is with a view to the careful preparation of a code of rules for this object that His Excellency in Council desires to be in possession of the view of the Government of Madras and the other

local administrations. His Excellency in Council is decidedly of opinion that the institution should be confined to natives of India, and that no titles should be given to the European British subjects of Her Majesty residing in India, otherwise than according to existing usage.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) C. BEADON.

No. 5.

From R. SIMSON, Esquire, Under Secretary to the Government of India, in the Foreign Department, *

To the Secretary to the Government of Bombay	...	} No. 3049, dated the 25th May 1859.
To the Secretary to the Government of Bengal	...	
To the Secretary to the Government of N. W. Provinces...	...	
To the Secretary to the Government of Punjab	...	
To the Chief Commissioner of Oude	...	
To the Commissioner of Pegu	...	
To the Commissioner of Nagpore	...	
To the Commissioner of Mysore	...	
To the Resident at Hyderabad	...	
To the Agent, Central India	...	
To the Agent, Rajpootana	...	
To the Resident at Baroda, and	...	
To the Political Agent of Rewah	...	

I AM directed by the Governor General in Council to forward*

* For the information of the Right Hon'ble the Governor in Council.

For the information of His Honor the Lieutenant Governor.

For your information.

From Officiating Secretary, Foreign Department, No 3029, dated 3rd September 1858, with two enclosures.

To Secretary to the Government of Madras, No. 3018, dated 25th May 1859.

to natives and Native Chiefs of India; and to request that†

† His Lordship in Council.

His Honor the Lieutenant Governor.

You.

will be pleased

to favor the Supreme

Government with his opinion and suggestions on the subject.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) R. SIMSON.

No. 6.

Read again letter from Surgeon EDWARD BALFOUR, Government Agent at Chepank, and Pay-master of Carnatic Stipends, dated 2nd June 1858, No. 987 of G. A., and recorded in Consultation of 20th July 1858.

No. 13.—Read also Minute by the Honorable the President, dated 6th April 1859.

This subject is familiar to me. More than 25 years ago, when I was Deputy Secretary to the Supreme Government of India, in the Political (now called the Foreign) Department, I prepared for Lord William Bentinck a scheme of Honorary Distinctions for Hindoos and Mahomedans, founded upon those which it had been usual to grant at the Court of Delhi, where the earliest years of my service were passed; and it is a proof that this scheme was a sound one, and in accordance with native feelings and usages, that it has remained without alteration to this day, and has been extensively acted upon, greatly to the public advantage. The Titles were,

For Hindoos.

Rái.
Ráo.
Bahádúr.
Rái or Ráo Bahádúr.
Rájá.
Rájá Bahádúr.
Maharájá.

For Mahomedans.

Khán.
Bahádúr.
Khán Bahádúr.
Bahádúr Jung.
Nawáb.

and it was at the same time arranged that all letters from the Governor General to natives of India should be written in the English language, according to certain formulas suited to the rank of the parties,—such as, “My Friend,” “My dear Friend,” &c., and ending with “Your sincere Friend,” and so on.

I see no reason why these rules should not be from henceforth acted upon in the Madras Presidency. The natural desire for honorable distinction enables a Government to exercise a powerful influence for good, at no cost to the public; and there must be many old native servants of the Madras Government, and public, spirited, and deserving members of the native community, whose selection for such distinctions would be regarded with general approbation.

No. 14.—Order thereon, No. 229, dated 8th April 1859.

1. The Government have again given their consideration to the letter recorded above.

2. More than 25 years ago, a scheme was prepared in Bengal, for Lord William Bentinck, of Honorary Distinctions for Hindoos and Mahomedans, founded upon those which it had been usual to grant at the Court of Delhi; and it is a proof that this scheme was a sound one, and in accordance with native feelings and usages, that it has remained without alteration to this day, and has been extensively acted upon greatly to the public advantage.

3. The titles were,

For Hindoos.

Rái.

Ráo.

Bahádur.

Rái or Ráo Bahádur.

Rájá.

Rájá Bahádur.

Maharájá.

For Mahomedans.

Khán.

Bahádur.

Khán Bahádur.

Bahádur Jung.

Nawáb.

and it was at the same time arranged that all letters from the Governor General to natives of India should be written in the English language, according to certain formulas suited to the rank of the parties,—such as “My Friend,” “My dear Friend,” &c., and ending with “Your sincere Friend,” and so on.

4. The Government do not see why these rules should not be henceforth acted upon in the Madras Presidency. The natural desire for honorable distinction enables a Government to exercise a powerful influence for good, at no cost to the public; and there must be many old native servants of the Madras Government, as well as public, spirited, and deserving members of the native community, whose selection for such distinctions would be regarded with general approbation.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT.

No. 7.

From C. BEADON, Esquire, Secretary to the Government of India,
Foreign Department,

To the Secy., Govt. of Madras ..
To the Secy., Govt. of Bombay ..
To the Secy., Govt. of Bengal ..
To the Secy., Govt. of North-Western
Provinces
To the Secy., Govt. of Punjab ..
To the Chief Commissioner of Oude, ..
To the Commissioner of Nagpore ..
To the Commissioner of Mysore ..
To the Commissioner of Pegu ..
To the Resident at Hyderabad ..
To the Agent, Governor General, Central
India
To the Agent, Governor General, Raj-
pootana
To the Resident at Baroda ..
To the Political Agent, Rewah ..

No. 8841.

Dated the 28th
June 1859.

I AM directed by His Excellency the Governor General in Council to draw your attention to my letter No. 3049, dated the 25th May last, and to request that the report therein called for, relative to the grant of Titles and Honorary Distinctions, may be furnished as soon as possible.

2. I am directed also to request that, with this report, there may be submitted a complete and carefully prepared Return of the Titles and Honorary Distinctions which have been conferred by the British Government on Native Chiefs and others, within the scope

• Your authority.

The authority of the Government of Bengal, &c.

of*

arranging these persons
according to the rank
which int

† Your opinion.

The opinion of the Bengal Government, &c.

they should hold, and giving the other particulars provided for in the subjoined form :

Name of person, and present Title or distinction, in full.	Authorized style of address.	District and place of residence.	Rank or profession, whether independent or tributary, Chief, Zemindar, or otherwise.	Date on which Title or distinction was bestowed.	Why bestowed, whether for service or on succession, or otherwise.	If on succession, date on which similar Title first bestowed on the family by British Government.	REMARKS.

3. In determining the relative rank of native gentlemen enjoying the same description of Title or Honorary Distinction, the Governor General in Council would suggest that, when such Title or Distinction has been enjoyed uninterruptedly by the ancestors of the actual holders, and has been renewed in his person by the British Government, regard should be had to the claims of family descent, and to the feelings of the native community on such subjects; but that where such Titles or Distinctions have been recently created by the British Government, the present holders should take rank from the date on which the Titles or Distinctions were personally conferred upon them.

4. I am also directed to request that you will furnish a list of persons within the
 * Your authority. The authority of the Government of Bengal, &c. scope of*

claiming or assuming Titles or Distinctions which have not been conferred upon them by the British Government, and to which consequently they have no right.

5. The Return will not include members of the Orders of Merit or of British India, or those who enjoy Titles and Addresses purely official, in virtue of their employment in the public service.

I have, &c.,
 (Signed) C. BEADON.

No. 8.

From Colonel Sir R. SHAKESPEAR, Kt., Agent of the Governor General for Central India, to R. SIMSON, Esquire, Under Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 297A, dated Indore Residency, the 14th June, 1859.

As directed in your Circular Letter No. 3049, of date 25th ultimo (which only reached me this morning), I proceed to record my views respecting the grant of Titles and Honorary Distinctions to Natives and Native Chiefs of India.

1st.—TO THE NATIVE CHIEFS.

2. I am of opinion that our position in India has been injured by our having so long recognized the house of Timur, as the fountain of honor. I think that we should strive, by every means, to make the Native Chiefs look to us for distinctions, and covet honors at our hands.

3. The Guikowar Chief sought for such distinction from us, and obtained it, but I have reason to believe that Holkar would not solicit the bestowal of Moorchals from us. I judge from a remark made by one of his agents who, when I casually mentioned the gratification the bestowal of Moorchals had conferred on the Guikowar, said, "we think that that distinction can only be given by the Sattara family."

4. It is sad to think that, even in 1856, an honor was more keenly coveted by every ruler in India from the Peishwas or the Delhi representative, than the same honor is, even in 1859, from the British Government. There must be something defective in our system when honors from us are so lightly regarded by the great families of India. They dread our power and value our grants of lands; they also value complimentary letters; but I think it will be found that very few in Rajpootana or elsewhere would (like the Guikowar) take a pride in openly displaying themselves as the gratified recipients of a pure honorary distinction, such as the Moguls and Peishwas formerly conferred.

5. Every such grant, even if gratefully received, would serve

to perpetuate to some degree the memory of former rulers; and were it not for the really contemptible private character of most Indian Chiefs and Princes, I should feel much inclined to suggest that purely English distinctions should be bestowed. I can imagine that the Minister of Nepaul received with greater delight the decoration of the Grand Cross of the Bath than he would have done any oriental Title, and I think that distinction would be highly valued by any Indian ruler, the Nizam for instance; but I submit that it is too pure an honor to be sullied by being shared in by such characters as Asiatics usually bear. The same may be said of the lower classes of the Order of the Bath.

6. All such distinctions are of a personal nature; but hereditary Titles are generally considered as honors to a family. For instance, I would not hesitate to propose a Baronetcy for the Nabob of Jourah, but I should be sorry to see him gazetted as K.C.B. or even *Knight Bachelor*; the grants should, in my opinion, be all from Her Majesty.

2nd.—TO NATIVES GENERALLY.

7: *The Order of Merit*.—I would beg to propose that, as in the Order of the Bath, there be both a Military and Civil class, and I know no other improvement that could be made, but it should be very sparingly bestowed to both Civil and Military.

8. I have for many years felt convinced that the time had arrived for our Government to try to introduce some distinction for those who can show *hereditary* service before the Hon'ble Company's rule in India ceased. I have often said that I should be proud to wear a Copper Order, bearing merely the words "*Tisree poosht Sircar Company ka Nonkar*."

9. The natives cling to family services: the worst of their rulers, in the greatest of his extremity, has frequently found his old hereditary servants cling to his ruined fortunes. So valuable and so amiable a characteristic ought not, I submit, to be neglected by so great a Government as ours. But our whole system is to treat the Natives as if they were machines. At Lord Elphinstone's table in December 1856, I mentioned this, and remarked that

some day "they would show us that they were not machines." Our Government is most anxious to gain the affections of the people, and I submit that an order directing all of second, third, or fourth generation of continued servitude, should have some distinctive decoration, and that all Officers should be told that the services of the ancestor constituted, in the eyes of Government, a very high claim in a candidate for employment.

10. Though not immediately connected with the question under discussion, I hope I may be allowed to take this opportunity of drawing attention to a point to which I attach the very greatest importance as affecting our influence in India.

11. *Our Leases.*—Our object, in long settled countries, is to effect a 30 years' lease. If we give all such leases for life, we shall at once effect our object (as 30 years would be about the average); but we shall touch the personal feeling of the man, and interest him for life in our rule. We shall always offer our farm for rent under the most favorable circumstances, for most men think their own lives will be long; whereas we now, after 25 years, have to put up a farm for only five years of the remainder of the lease. Each fresh lease would have time for consideration separately (and the human being is entitled to that consideration); whereas they all terminate on one day, and a whole district finds itself disposed of by the decree of a distant Board, just as if each of the breathing tenants had not feelings and sympathies worthy of individual consideration.

12. I gave *Heen hyát puttās* to some of the most troublesome Talookdars in Scindiah's country on the Chumbul in 1846, and 1857 they stood by Scindiah. They had been always, previous to the leases for life, in a chronic state of warfare with Scindiah.

13. All Natives cling to any scrap of paper as a certificate. Sunnuds from the head of the Government and from the Secretary to Government, and testimonials by other officers, on paper highly ornamented with the Royal Arms, and in a printed form, would be very suitable rewards to servants of Government, in cases where the Order of Merit could hardly be appropriate.

14. I fear that I have allowed my pleasure at finding Government taking a keen interest in a measure affecting the feelings of the people, to cause me to enter on the subject at greater length than was desired, but I am certain that few subjects are more deserving of the attention of Government.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) R. C. SHAKESPEAR.

No. 9.

From Lieutenant-Colonel C. DAVIDSON, Resident at Hyderabad, to CECIL BEADON, Esquire, Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 71, dated Hyderabad Residency, the 22nd June 1859.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Circular Letter No. 3049, dated the 25th ultimo, from your Office, directing me to furnish my opinion and suggestions as to the grant of Titles and Honorary Distinctions to the Natives and Native Chiefs in India.

2. It is with great regret that I observe in the 4th paragraph of Despatch No. 3048, of the 25th May 1859, to the Madras Government, that His Excellency the Governor General in Council has expressed his decided opinion that the institution "should be confined to Natives of India;" as I believe this decision will be fatal to its usefulness, and will lessen the great anxiety for honors and reward from our Government which would otherwise actuate the native mind; I do not say that some would not still desire such rank and honors, but it would not be so general and universal, as it will be if a most comprehensive order were instituted, associating in it all Her Majesty's subjects, whether European or Native.

3. At no period of British rule in India have all the actions and movements of Government been so narrowly watched and scanned by the Natives as at the present time. The universal question is—Shall we or shall we not be bettered by being brought under the immediate Government of Her Majesty the Queen? Unfortunately, the heavy war expenditure on account of the rebellion, and permanently retaining a much larger Army of European soldiers than we have ever yet done before in India, has already forced us to impose taxes,

and rumour asserts others are intended, which will materially affect the pecuniary interests of the whole of the people of India. This, at the inauguration of the direct Government of Her Majesty, is, as above said, unfortunate, as it perpetuates the idea that most natives already entertain, that we have only governed them in order to exact as much revenue from them as we can, without reference to their interests, and that they will therefore now be worse off under the immediate Government of Her Majesty, than they were under that of the East India Company.

4. Is it then politic, while instituting an order granting rewards and honors for services to Her Majesty's Government, and for meritorious acts to the general community, that it should be hampered with what will be deemed the invidious distinction, that it is for natives alone,—an order, in short, which will be 'good enough for the people of India, but valueless in the eyes of Europeans?

5. I know there is already a feeling of this kind extant in regard to the Orders of "British India" and "Order of Merit." Their exclusive nature, as Dr. Balfour justly remarks, was one element against their success; but another was that it is supposed our Government considered them good enough for the natives of India, but not worthy of acceptance by their European troops.

6. In illustration of this feeling, I would remark, that when these Orders were lately liberally bestowed by the Government of India on the Native Officers and men of the Hyderabad Contingent, they did not fail repeatedly to ask why they were not shared in by their European Officers.

7. In some instances, such as power over the life and property of Europeans, I would not allow an equality on the part of the natives of India with our own race, as I consider them at present, neither by education, civilization, nor friendly sentiments to our nation, fitted for such a position: but in an institution which is to reward good service to the State, and meritorious conduct to the community, it, in my opinion, cannot be too comprehensive.

8. Firmly convinced as I am that, with the utmost toleration to all creeds and native religions, our Mission to India is one to establish Christianity and civilization throughout the length and breadth

of the land, I should be sorry indeed to see the power given to any one to point out, that even in the bestowal of titles and honors, we arrogantly drew a line of distinction between the European and native races. I would therefore advocate the institution of an Order by Her Majesty to which all her subjects, whether European or native, who did good and meritorious services to the State in the East, were alike eligible.

9. I know that many European Officers scorn the idea of being associated in any honors with the natives of India, but this is a feeling deeply to be regretted, and which no means should be left untried to eradicate. It is everywhere acknowledged that the antipathy and hatred between the European and native races of India have of late years increased ; and however much the Government and its authorities have discountenanced and discouraged this feeling, late events have rendered it stronger than ever.

10. Her Majesty and Her advisers will well know how to enact an Order open to all Her subjects, rendered valuable and highly prized by means of Her fostering care, in which I hope to see names of European note incorporated ; under such circumstances, I should have no fear of its success, especially if, in exceptional cases, it was not confined to meritorious services done in India, but its honors conferred on those statesmen and soldiers who have won a European renown in all parts of the world.

11. I coincide fully in all the views and arguments urged by Dr. Balfour in his very interesting letter of the 2nd June 1858, enclosed in Despatch No. 446, of the 14th July 1858, to the Secretary to the Government of India, and I do not believe any one could express the feelings of the natives of this part of India more eloquently or truthfully.

12. So notorious is the avidity with which all ranks of the natives of India seek for titles and honors, that it is a well known fact that the Nizam's Minister, Chundoo Lall, during General Wellesley's (the Duke of Wellington's) campaigns in the Deccan, sold titles for very high prices to the Brinjarrah Chiefs, the grain carriers of his camp, who amassed large fortunes during that period of war

from their trade, and used to bid against each other for these honors, on hearing that any of their number had received a higher title than they themselves possessed.

13. I agree with the view taken by His Honor the President in Council with regard to Titular Princes being prohibited hereafter from bestowing titles, and that *quasi* independent Princes should not be permitted to confer titles on Her Majesty's subjects without the sanction of the British Government. But with reference to their own subjects, they might deal with them as heretofore.

14. With reference to His Honor the President in Council's remarks on the present "Orders of Merit" and "British India," and the extension of titles and honors to all Her Majesty's subjects, I have already expressed myself in the foregoing remarks. I have only to add that, in my opinion, the conferring, say the two or three highest grades of any new Order that may be instituted, should rest entirely with Her Majesty. The power to confer certain grades, should be delegated to His Excellency the Governor General, and, under his authority, to the subordinate Governors and Lieutenant Governors, and in some instances the high Officers serving under the Governor General's authority; it should, moreover, be clearly impressed on every one that the bestowal of immediate reward should, in all cases, if possible, be practised. Long delay occurring between the services performed, and reward given, undoubtedly makes it lose half its value.

15. No pecuniary element of any kind should be allowed to enter either in bestowing or receiving the titles, I would propose, to be conferred by Her Majesty's Government; they should be entirely honorary, and only given to those who could support them with honor and credit.

16. I have not entered into the question of how the general and comprehensive Order I would advocate should be instituted, or if it should be incorporated with any Order now in existence in this country or in England, as I know the measure will be decided by more competent advisers; but should the proposition be entertained, I would suggest that the titles conferred should, in order to prevent the possibility of churlish ridicule being attached to names that may appear in our eyes uncouth and unmeaning, have an English nomenclature,

even if ingrafted on the present Mahomedan and Hindoo Titles as given by Dr. Balfour, which correspond with those of His Highness the Nizam's Government, and I believe with those formerly conferred by the extinct family of Delhi and the great Potentates who governed India.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) C. DAVIDSON.

No. 10.

From Lieutenant J. F. MACANDREW, Officiating Secretary to Chief Commissioner, Oude, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 403, dated Lucknow, the 30th July 1859.

As desired in your letter No. 3049, dated the 25th May last, the Chief Commissioner begs to offer his opinion on the subject of granting titles and distinctions on natives of India. He has treated of the subject under separate heads—

1st.—The titles which shall be bestowed on Native Chiefs and gentlemen.

2. The Chief Commissioner is very strongly of opinion, that it would be highly politic to confer English titles on Native Chiefs and gentlemen; such a course would he thinks tend greatly to identify them with us, to make them feel subjects of the same Crown, to their adoption of English customs, and, as a consequence, to the shaking off many of the prejudices of caste. By excluding them from English titles we widen the gulf between the two races, and by adopting the native titles to reward them, we rather seem to exercise a prerogative inherited from the Delhi Empire, and to contribute to its prestige. The Chief Commissioner feels confident that English titles would be highly prized. We have seen how the leaders in the late rebellion assumed such honors, no doubt with the idea they made a great impression on the minds of the followers. Two of the Nana's confidential advisers were created "Lords," and the Chief Commissioner knows for certain that they were always addressed in conversation in that style. The Begum's Privy Council was called the "Parliament," and educated natives always speak

of it by that name. We know how the revolted Army preserved our Military grades and designations, and as an individual instance, the Chief Commissioner will mention that it is the height of the Kuppoothulla Rajah's ambition to prefix "Sir" to his name.

3. The Chief Commissioner, reasoning from the precedent in the case of Sir Jamsetjee Jejeeboy, assumes there would be no objection to granting the dignities of Baronet and Knight to natives of India.

4. But though he would give every encouragement to native gentlemen to seek for English rather than native titles, and would therefore allow all Maharajahs, and the most considerable Rajahs to exchange their present titles for Baronetcies, he doubts whether it would be possible to dispense with native titles altogether; nor indeed would it be prudent to make the attempt, as there is danger the object in view might be defeated, if we appeared to force our titles on them in substitution of their own.

2nd.—Rank and precedence which shall accompany titles and forms of address.

5. In accordance with the view above expressed, the Chief Commissioner would rank a Baronetcy before any native title whatever. A Baronetcy being an hereditary dignity, it should be conferred only on men of large landed property, and should be liable to be withdrawn if the possessor should become impoverished. The native title, both Hindoo and Mahomedan, and the order of this precedence, are well known, and it is therefore unnecessary to recapitulate them, the style of address, too, is probably laid down in the Office of the Secretary to Government.

6. But as all who deserve honors cannot be made Knights and Baronets, nor even receive native titles, it seems essential that some new order should be created, to which persons of all ranks, Europeans and Natives, who have rendered themselves eminent in other ways than by military services, should be admitted. The Order of Merit the Chief Commissioner would confine to the Army, because its peculiar value as evidence of bravery might be lessened in the estimation of the Native Soldiers if it were conferred for civil

services. But there seems no reason why non-Military persons who have distinguished themselves in the field of battle, or policemen, who have performed daring acts in the discharge of their duties, should not be admitted to it.

7. For the same reason that he has advocated the bestowal of English titles on natives, the Chief Commissioner recommends that the new order he proposes should be open to Europeans as well as Natives. Indeed he thinks it indispensable to its being properly appreciated that some of the highest Civil Officers should be decorated with it.

8. The services that would entitle to admission to the order are—Tried ability in the public administration, marked loyalty during the late insurrection, enlightened efforts on the part of landlords in opening out new sources of industry and wealth, in constructing useful public works, and in improving the condition of their country.

9. There should be two classes, to the first of which European Officials, and natives also of a grade not lower than Deputy Collectors, and extra Assistant Commissioners, large landholders, and wealthy capitalists, titled and untitled, should be admitted.

10. To the second, Native Officials and private gentlemen of inferior rank and status.

11. The Chief Commissioner would not admit any of the peasantry, or of the lowest classes to this order ; he thinks the principle of equality is not yet sufficiently understood by the people of Hindoostan.

12. No pecuniary allowances should accompany. In instituting such an order, we presume in the existence of higher principles of action than the desire of gain.

13. When the humblest classes of the population establish claims to rewards, the Chief Commissioner would conform to the native custom of bestowing on them a turban, shawl, or sword.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) J. F. MACANDREW.

No. 11.

From Captain WILLOUGHBY OSBORNE, Political Agent, Rewah, to C. BEADON, Esquire, Secretary to the Government of India, in the Foreign Department, No. 1316, dated the 26th July, 1859.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your circular

From Officiating Secretary, Foreign Department, No. 3029, dated the 3rd September, 1858, with two enclosures.

To Secretary to Government of Madras, No. 3048, dated 25th May, 1859.

letter No. 3049, dated 25th May, received in this Office on the 4th instant, forwarding copies of papers, as per margin, regarding

the granting of titles, &c., to natives.

2. No persons in the districts under my administration have ever been thus rewarded.

3. The system of granting titles and distinctions has existed in India from time immemorial, and is one that has acted most beneficially in exciting a loyal feeling to the paramount power.

4. Every Englishman, howsoever and wheresoever employed, looks to his Sovereign as the source of all honor; the granting of distinction to Europeans by the Indian Government would consequently lead to no good results.

5. The question regarding titles being hereditary or otherwise, is one that requires deep attention.

6. Distinctions and titles granted by Native Chiefs are virtually hereditary, liable to be cancelled for misconduct on the part of the recipient. A fresh investiture taking place on every occasion.

7. It would be advisable to confine the titles, &c. to those formerly in use in *Hindoostan*. Titles are at the present time frequently conferred by the Native Chiefs of India on their own subjects. Titles are however invariably accompanied by *Jagheers*. These latter are of three kinds: one called *Birith* is merely given for extraordinary services, it is hereditary and can only be resumed on account of rebellion; the second called *Moorwar* is also hereditary, but is merely given to a son whose father has been killed on active service; the third is a *Nokuree Jagheer*, and is given for only one life; it is for military

service, the son, however, if fit, invariably succeeds to his father's appointment.

8. In the Rewah Territory, during the last six years, sixteen persons have received titles, a few examples of which are—

1st.—Dinbund Pandy, the Prime Minister, received the following title: “Sree Pandy Rajpooj Maharaj Mookh Mittra Dinbundjee,” he received a Jagheer of Rupees 3,500, and a Palkee, Elephant, Mussaul, and Khillut. When a Palkce, Elephant, and Mussaul are given, the keep of the Elephant bearer's pay, and expense of the Mussalchee are paid by the Rajah.

2nd.—Muttranath, Ex-Dewan, received the title of “Sree Pandy Rajpooj Maharaj Mookhmuntree,” and received also a Jagheer, Palkee, Mussaul, and Khillut; owing to his conduct throughout the rebellion, everything has been resumed but the Jagheer.

3rd.—Davy Sing, the Sirdar who saved my life, received last year for his conduct on that occasion the title of Sree Maharaj Koomar Sree Jemadar Davy Sing Deo. He also received a Jagheer, Elephant, and Nikara, or Kettle-drum.

9. In every instance has a Jagheer being given, and also Elephant, Mussauls, Flags, Inkstands, Nikaras, and Khilluts, &c., according to the position of the individuals.

10. The Emperors of Delhi used to confer titles on the subjects of Tributary Chiefs. Nurnhur Kub, a subject of Rewah, in the reign of Akbur, received the title of *Mohapotra*, and a Jagheer of 22 villages.

11. The titles for feudatory Chiefs should, in my opinion, be conferred by the Viceroy; it is to him that every native should look for reward; it would increase his influence over the Tributary Chiefs, and be the foundation of much good.

12. The titles hitherto conferred by Asiatic Princes have in reality represented so many orders, one kind of titles being only conferred on relatives, another on Brahmins, and a third only on Chuttrees and Rajpoots, or the fighting castes; other distinctions were also conferred.

13. I am of opinion that we might with great advantage follow out the principle formerly in vogue amongst the Native Chiefs, classi-

fyng the different titles and forming a series of orders for different services.

14. The first order might be confined to Tributary Chiefs. The second for distinguished valor or loyalty to the State, open both to Civilian and Military men. The third might be for social position, and for the construction of Public Works, and acts benefitting society in general. The fourth for length of service.

15. In every case, however, it will be necessary to grant the recipient land or money to support his title.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) WILLOUGHBY OSBORNE.

No. 12.

From Major W. F. EDEN, Officiating Agent, Governor General, for the States of Rajpootanah, to R. SIMSON, Esquire, Under Secretary to the Government of India, No. 172, dated Camp Kalakor, the 5th August 1859.

I HAVE had the honor to receive your letters marginally cited,

No. 3841, dated the 28th June 1859.
No. 3049, dated the 25th May 1859,
with enclosures.

with their enclosures, respecting the grant of titles and honorary distinctions to Natives, and Native Chiefs of India.

2. In respect of the Despatch No. 3841, it has been necessary to refer to the Political Subordinates for the information called for, but as a general question, I will, to the best of my ability, proceed to record my opinion upon the subject of your first letter, as desired.

3. It admits of little doubt but that the present time, combined with other favorable circumstances, is the most convenient to prosecute so desirable a measure as that presently under the consideration of the Government, and which would be so earnestly appreciated by Her Majesty's subjects in India.

4. I will assume the points to which His Honor the President in Council suggested that inquiries might be directed.

5. I am of opinion that changes should be made in the titles

Whether there should be any, and if any, what change in the titles now given.

only in so far as would secure uniformity throughout India, and to meet the nature of the service rendered by individuals, of whatever denomination.

dedered by individuals, of whatever denomination.

6. I would suggest that while the exclusive character attaching

Whether there should be any, and if any, what additional titles and honorary distinctions.

to the Order of British India and Order of Merit is preserved, honorary distinctions be augmented, and

also titles that shall embrace every class of honor conferred, or that shall be deemed necessary to confer, for services and merits of a civil and political nature.

7. The bestowal of a decoration would undoubtedly enhance

Whether the bestowal of titles should be accompanied by any, and if any by what decorations, or substantial advantages, or both.

the value of a title conferred; such decorations might be given that shall correspond with the class or degree of title conferred. Though there cannot

be a doubt but that the natives of India desire to receive honors and distinctions, unaccompanied though they be by pecuniary rewards, yet I apprehend that for the most part they prefer more substantial advantages, such as shall render them competent to support a title in the manner in which their general character and disposition lead them to consider essential to the dignity of a new, and to them, an exalted position.

8. In cases then of a very special nature, where the service rendered by a public servant or a subject of the Government shall have been marked by extraordinary incidents, and where a course of long and exemplary conduct shall have been of advantage to the State, as well as to its subjects generally, I would be disposed to mark our appreciation of the services respectfully rendered, or of respective merits, by the gift of a grant of land, or an annual money payment for life, commensurate with the title conferred.

9. In such a case the land bestowed would pass from parent to

Whether titles should be in any case hereditary.

child, an annuity would cease with the demise of the first recipient, or

continued in accordance with the pleasure of the Government on a reduced scale. In no case would I recommend that titles should be hereditary, but given solely for merit and personal good service; for it is obvious in the present undeveloped condition of the native mind, an aristocracy of merit would be preferable to an hereditary one; this measure would also obviate the evils attaching to an impoverished nobility, as the Government might not in every instance find a successor a deserving object for their liberal consideration.

10. The titles should I apprehend be distinct, and in accordance

Whether the same titles should be granted for social position, for long good conduct, and for special service, or whether they should be different.

with the degree and nature of the services rendered, and these are more or less of an active character in the career of every person ; and

it would moreover be naturally more gratifying to a person rendering a "special service" to receive a distinction differing from that accorded for "social position" alone.

11. There should I conceive be more than one order ; at least a

Whether there should be one, or more than one order, and whether in each order the number of titles of each grade or class should be limited or unlimited.

Civil and a Military Order, with not less than four classes. The first class of which I would reserve for Native Princes, the second to minis-

ters, nobles, Jagheerdars, Thakoors, and Officers of high social or official position, the third to the middle classes of the people, and the fourth open to all others of inferior position or denomination. The number of titles for each class to be limited—the number of recipients of honors unlimited.

12. The Governments of Madras and Bombay might be per-

Whether the Governments of Bombay and Madras should continue to exercise the power of conferring titles and distinctions, or whether the power throughout India should be confined to the Governor General in Council.

mitted to exercise this privilege on occasions of some remarkable service rendered, where instant recognition of it might be deemed

Whether the highest titles, especially those which it may be thought proper to reserve for the Chiefs and dependant and feudatory States, should not be granted by the Crown, on the recommendation of the Governor General in Council.

essential ; but under ordinary circumstances, recommendations should be submitted by the subordinate Presidencies, for the orders of His Excellency the Viceroy.

13. Under the new order of events, I should say that the

The President in Council considers it highly desirable that the subject should be redeemed from its present state of obscurity and uncertainty, and placed on the same clear and well understood footing as it was under the Mogul Empire, and as the grant of honors and distinctions is in the United Kingdom ; and he conceives that there could not be a more opportune time for carrying out such a measure than the present, when recent occurrences have raised in many quarters a claim to the grant of honors from the Government, and when the administration of India has been transferred by act of Parliament from the East India Company to the Crown.

bestowal of the titles should rest entirely and unreservedly in the hands of the Governor General in Council ; so that our native subjects may be the more readily

brought to comprehend the true nature of his high position as Her

Majesty's Representative and Viceroy in India, and entertain a just and desirable impression of the power invested in him promptly to reward or to punish; rapidity of action in all instances, too, of conferring honorary distinctions and rewards must enhance their appreciation by the recipients.

14. I am of opinion that none of the Princes of India should be permitted to exercise the privilege of conferring honors and titles on the subjects or *employés* of our Government, at least without its consent.

15. If it is not the intention of Government to admit, as a general rule, the European Uncovenanted Servants of the Government deserving of rewards, within the institution, they might receive the same distinctions as those conferred, of a higher degree, on the native subjects of our Government; yet such a measure may not be acceptable, and the comparison be considered invidious in instances where the services rendered are alike. The necessity for the introduction of uniform titles is manifest from the list given by Doctor Balfour in the 3rd paragraph of his letter. Out of eight titles mentioned by that gentleman, the intention of four of them is lost or rendered obscure by the omission of their several and respective attributes: for instance "*Jah*" signifies "rank," "*Moolk*" Country, "*Dowlut*" state, "*jung*" war, &c., they should have been qualified with such adjuncts as "*Alee Jah*" (high in rank [civil title]) "*Saifool Moolk*" (the Sword of the Country—[Military]), "*Amcen Oodowla*" (the trustee of the State—[Civil]) "*Jung Bahadur*" (brave in battle), and so forth.

16. The emblems of honor and rank detailed in the 4th paragraph of Dr. Balfour's letter should be abolished. It is scarcely the age to deny a man an umbrella or a palanquin, because he is of inferior rank. For them might be substituted the decoration worn alike by all, or each in his own degree of elevation, which would be more highly valued than the perishable cloak taken from the back of royalty and placed on the shoulders of the favourite of a day.

17. Probably the most acceptable to the Native Princes would be an Order somewhat similar to our own in England, that is to say a star of a peculiar construction, which in the case of Princes might be set in diamonds, to be worn with a broad ribbon, of a color not worn in Europe. It might be made of any value, and be substituted in

part or whole for the Khilluts or Dresses of honor which are now given.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) W. F. EDEN.

No. 13.

From T. PYCROFT, Esquire, Chief Secretary to the Government of Fort Saint George, to C. BEADON, Esquire, Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 468, dated the 5th August 1859.

I AM directed by the Honorable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letters under date the 25th May and 28th June last, on the subject of the conferring of Native Titles, and in reply to forward the accompanying Minute which has been written by the Honorable the Governor, and is concurred in by the Members of Government, on the several points mooted. I transmit also a Memorandum, affording the information called for in your letter of the 28th June.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) T. PYCROFT.

Minute by the Honorable the President, dated 2nd August 1859.

THE grant of Titles and other Honorary Distinctions, which forms the subject of the letters from the Government of India, dated the 25th May and 28th June last, is a point of the highest importance. The craving after distinction is an element of great power. It cannot remain neutral; and must either be used by us for beneficial purposes, or, being deprived of legitimate exercise, it seeks employment at our expense. The Natives of India are particularly susceptible to this feeling. The famous Dynasty which was for so many generations their Fountain of Honor, has been lately brought to a final close, and it behoves us to direct their popular aspirations in a more consistent manner than heretofore towards the new régime.

I would, however, venture to suggest, that we should not *over-systematise*. The subject is one which requires free play for successful action, because it depends upon moral considerations, embracing the entire field of public life, and deriving their complexion from the vary-

ing circumstances and feelings of the time. Even private life is not excluded from the view ; for the public services should be eminent indeed which should admit to honorary distinction, when private respectability is wanting. Our home practice furnishes a sufficiently approximate model. There is no attempt made there to define beforehand the classes of persons to whom, or the services for, which, each description of title should be granted. The titles also are of various kind, suited to every variety of circumstance. Some are simply hereditary, applicable to ancient families, with substantial patrimonial estates. Others, like the Garter, and the Irish and Scotch Orders of Saint Patrick and the Thistle, although of a personal character, are practically used as additional ornaments of a Patrician position. Other honors, like the Bath, are simply personal. A prevailing conscientiousness and good taste have sufficed to secure a proper administration of this system, without fettering the discretion of the Crown by detailed rules ; and I recommend that we should, in like manner, confine ourselves in India to laying down a few general principles, which may be applied by an elastic, but consistent process, to the infinitely varied circumstances of Indian society, far more varied than the corresponding state of things in England.

The grant of titles in this country should be confined to the Natives of the country. British-born subjects should look, as at present, to their Home Government for their honors. But without laying down any unbending rule, the interesting and important middle class of Creoles and Country-born, now generally known as " East-Indians," may, under certain circumstances, participate in the grant of Indian titles ; while, under other circumstances, English titles would be more acceptable and appropriate.

No Titular Prince within the British Territory should be permitted to grant titles. Titles granted by independent Princes to their own subjects, will of course be recognised by us ; but not so titles granted to British subjects by independent Princes. The practice at Home on this point has become increasingly strict of late years ; and foreign titles are not permitted to be assumed, except under the rare contingency of their having been obtained by service in the face of an enemy in support of one of Her Majesty's Allies. A Roman Catholic

Bishop recently requested me to recognise, by a notice in the *Government Gazette*, an Order of knighthood which he had received from the King of Portugal, but I declined to do so, alleging as my reason that I was bound to conform my practice to that of Her Majesty's Government.

The first six years of my public service were in connection with the Delhi Residency ; and when, after that, I became Deputy Secretary to Government in the Political, or as it is now called, the Foreign Department, I was desired by Lord William Bentinck to prepare a scheme of titles, founded upon the practice at the Court of Delhi. This I did ; and the result was recorded in a small manuscript book in the Office,* and the general rules so laid down were uniformly acted upon, at least up to the year 1838, when I left India. There was an ascending scale of titles, as nearly as I can recollect as follows :

<i>For Hindus.</i>	<i>For Mahomedan</i>
Mahárájá	Nawáb.
Rájá Bahádúr.	Bahádúr Jung.
Rájá.	Khán Bahádúr.
Rái or Ráo Bahádúr.	Bahádúr.
Bahádúr.	Khán.
Ráo.	
Rái.	

It would, however, not be advisable to lay down any rigid formula, never to be departed from. The resources of the Sanscrit, Arabic, Persian, and the other languages more or less used in India, are infinite ; and titles may often be devised appropriate to the particular case. Thus, Rámaswámí Mudaliyár Jágirdár of the Island of Sivasamudram, in Mysore, had the title of Janopakúra Kartá (signifying " One who confers a benefit on the public ") conferred upon him for restoring the ancient Bridge across the Cauvery River at Sivasamudram ; and when the Rájá of Jhánsi was created a Mahá Rájá, he was allowed to assume the additional designation of " Fídwi Bádsháh-i-Jamjáh Inglístán," or, " The devoted adherent of the exalted Sovereign of Great Britain," in accordance with the style used by the

* To the best of my recollection, it was in the handwriting, and it was certainly in the keeping of Mr. S. H. Boileau, who had been Register in the Persian Department, and afterwards held the same position in the Office of Native Correspondence attached to the Secret and Political Department.

Chiefs of Rajpútána in reference to their former liege Lords at Delhi. The title lately selected by Narasingha Ráo, Sir Thomas Munro's Sharistadár, was Raí Ráya Rái, which had been previously conferred upon Venkata Ráo, Native Assistant to the Mysore Commission, and previously Diwán to the Rájá of Travancore. The Title of "Highness" is inadmissible, except in reference to a sovereign Prince; and "Excellency," which was accorded to the Tondiman Rájá, one of our faithful dependents in the South, will probably never be again conceded: but as time and change advance, other more appropriate English Titles may be devised.

Whether Titles should be hereditary, should depend entirely upon the circumstances of each particular case. Where the title is merely an adjunct to a substantial Patrician and territorial possession, like those of the Chiefs of the Protected Sikh States, Bundelkund, and many others, the title should be hereditary; but in the majority of cases it should be personal. Between these two categories there will always be a middle term; and the power which the Government will possess of confirming to a deserving son the titles enjoyed by his deceased father, will furnish a strong motive to fidelity and good conduct.

According to the former Native practice, the grant of a title was always accompanied by a Khillut, or honorary present of Shawls, Jewellery, &c., and sometimes also, Horses and an Elephant. This practice is so consonant to human nature that it ought to be retained. I clasped round Narasingha Rao's wrist a gold Bracelet, upon which his title and the occasion of granting it, together with an effigy of Her Majesty, were engraved. I put upon his finger a Signet Ring with his title upon it, and tied round his Turban the beautiful Native ornament called Jigah Sarpeech; and gave him several Shawls and Scarfs besides, which no doubt contributed much to the satisfaction of his family. After the Raja of Jhansi had received his Khillut, he asked, as a particular favor, that he might be allowed to adopt the "Union Jack" as the standard of his principality, in token of his entire devotion to our interests. This was permitted, and the little State remained faithful, until it was destroyed by being annexed.

The same manuscript in the Foreign Office at Calcutta, which contained the scale of titles, also showed the form of the address appli-

cable to each. These were settled when Lord William Bentinck determined that all letters from the Governor General to Native Chiefs should be in English. They were extremely simple, such as *My Friend* ; *My dear Friend* ; *My Friend and Brother*, &c. ; and they were used at least till Lord Auckland's time.

I do not see any difficulty in respect to the precedence to be connected with the titles. As between persons with different titles, the precedence will of course follow the gradation of titles ; and as between persons with the same titles, it should be determined by the priority of the grant.

I will not attempt to enter upon a description of the services for which titles should be given. They should, of course, be *Public* services, rendered either directly to the Government, or through the ever-varying and multiplying forms, in which beneficent action can be brought to bear upon the community. Some indispensable general conditions can however be specified, such as respectable private character, unimpeached fidelity to the British Government, and sufficient private fortune, invested in a permanent form, to maintain the rank.

The Government of India decided in 1839, that the grant of Titles to Natives of the Madras Presidency should emanate from the Local Government. It will be seen from the annexed Memorandum from our Chief Secretary, Mr. Pycroft, and from the Tabular Statements annexed to it, that titles had been granted by the Madras Government, both for Civil and Military services, from a period long antecedent to 1839. The Governor and Council at Madras embody all the ideas of the authority of Government known to the population of this Presidency ; and if the local administration were divested of this power of granting titles, it would be degraded in its own esteem, as well as in that of the population entrusted to its charge, and would be deprived of one of the most unobjectionable means of exercising an extensive influence for good. But, although it has not been required hitherto, it may be proper that all titles should be given with the previous sanction of the Governor General, who in this, as in other matters, should exercise a general revision, without unnecessarily interfering with the just discretion of the Local Governments.

The detailed information called for by the Government of India will be found in Mr. Pycroft's Memorandum, and in the Tabular Statements appended to it.

(Signed) C. E. TREVELYAN.
" PATRICK GRANT.
" WALTER ELLIOT.
" W. A. MOREHEAD.

No. 14.

Memorandum from the Secretary to the Government of India, Nos. 3648 and 3841, dated 25th May and 28th June 1859.

THE Secretary to the Government of India forwards copy of a communication from the Honorable the President in Council, dated 3rd September, and of a Resolution of 30th May 1829, therein referred to.

2. His Excellency in Council would be glad to receive from the Honorable the Governor in Council any further suggestions regarding the grant of Titles and Honorary Distinctions to Natives of India for services in a civil capacity, as well as to Chiefs, and other Native gentlemen of rank, wealth, and influence, to whom such distinctions have hitherto been usually granted.

3. He recognizes the necessity for placing the whole subject on a clear and intelligible footing, and of defining precisely the titles which shall hereafter be given to Native Chiefs and gentlemen, the rank and precedence which shall accompany such titles, the forms of address which shall be invariably observed, the classes of persons to which, and the services for which each description of title will be granted, and other particulars necessary to constitute the body of persons to whom such titles are conferred a recognized institution of the Empire. He is decidedly of opinion that the institution should be confined to Natives of India, and that no titles should be given to the European British subjects of Her Majesty residing in India, otherwise than according to existing usage.

4. In a subsequent letter, 28th June, the Government of India call for a carefully prepared Return, in a given form, of the Titles and Honorary distinctions which have been conferred by the British Government on Native Chiefs and others, within the scope of the authority of the Government of Fort Saint George, arranging these persons according to

the rank which, in the opinion of the Madras Government, they should hold. The Return is not to include Members of the Orders of Merit or of British India, or those who enjoy titles and addresses purely official in virtue of their employment in the Public Service.

5. The Supreme Government further request to be furnished with a list of persons within the scope of the authority of the Government of Fort Saint George, claiming or assuming titles or distinctions which have not been conferred upon them by the British Government, and to which, consequently, they have no right.

6. But very few instances have occurred in which titles or honorary distinctions have been conferred by the British Government, on Natives within the scope of the authority of Fort Saint George.

9th October 1834.

"His Excellency the Right Honorable the Governor General of India in Council being desirous of testifying his sense of the public spirit manifested by Rāmaswāmi Mudaliyār, in having at a great expense restored the ancient Bridge across the Cauvery River at Sivasamudram, has been pleased to resolve that that individual and his lineal descendants shall be permitted to affix to their name the Title of "Janopakāra Kartā" (signifying one who confers a benefit on the public), in commemoration of the useful undertaking which he has completed.

7. A Notification, as

per margin was published in the *Fort Saint George Gazette*, to announce that the Title of Janopakāra Kartā had been conferred upon Rāmaswāmi Mudaliyār, Jāgirdār of the Island of Sivasamudram, by the

Supreme Government.

8. In the year 1838, the Supreme Government, after consulting the Madras Government as to whether there would be any objection to the measure, conferred the Title of Rāi Rāyā Rāi upon Venkata Rāo, Native Assistant to the Mysore Comission, and previously Dīwān to the Rājā of Travancore. This was notified in the *Fort Saint George Gazette*, 20th April 1838, page 247.

9. In the year 1845, Sulóchana Mudaliyar Deputy Sārishtadār of Tinnevely, having, at his sole expense, built a Bridge across the Tāmraparni River, costing more than half a lac of Rupees, the Board of Revenue, 27th February 1845, recommended that, besides raising, at the expense of the State, a Pillar "in commemoration of the Builder," his conduct should be acknowledged by Government by some appropriate title as a public benefactor. The Madras

Respecting Rāmaswāmi Mudaliyār.
Ide Supra, para. 7 margin.

Government referred the matter to the Government of India, 19th April 1845,

and enquired, with reference to the communication of Mr. Secretary Mac-

naghten, dated 9th October 1834, with the Notification enclosed, and to paragraph 13 of the Resolution of the Government of India, dated 2nd

September 1839,* if such titles were conferred in similar cases by the Government of India; and whether it was

the wish of that Government, that they should, if conferred, emanate from them, or from the Local Government. The Supreme Government replied that the distinction proposed to be conferred upon Sulóchana Mudaliyar, seemed to have been well earned by that individual in the erection of the Bridge over the Támraparni River at his sole expense, and His Excellency in Council was of opinion that the grant of such title should emanate from the Government of Fort Saint George. The terms of the Notification, 9th October 1834, might be adhered to, but with this

Supra margin, para. 7. exception, that in the present case, the title was not to be hereditary. Ulti-

mately, however, it appeared that Sulóchana Mudali was not anxious for a title, and the matter dropped.

10. Last year, 27th April 1858, the Officiating Agent at Kurnool forwarded to Government an address from the Jágirdár of Banganapalle, soliciting that the Government would, "after the manner of Kings," confer

upon him the Title of his Grandfather,* *viz.* that of Nawab Bahádur, Dil Jung

Munsur Ool Daulah Bahádur. This title he was accordingly permitted to assume, in a letter from Lord Harris, dated 3rd June 1858. But no Notification was made in the *Gazette*.

11. Rájá Raghunádha Tondamán Bahádur, Rájá of Pudukóttá, in a letter to the Resident, dated 13th August 1828, intimated his wish that the Honorable Company would bestow upon him some honorary distinction. The Resident, Captain Fyfe, explained, that "Excellency" was the title coveted. The Rajah at the same time forwarded a letter to the Governor General, which was not sent. It seemed that the Rájá had already, in some communications from the Government of India, been addressed as His Excellency. The Madras Government considered that this was a sufficient recognition of the title, and that no further orders were needed. On the death of the Rájá, the title of Excellency was, (Extract Minutes of Consultation, 10th September 1839), conferred upon his son, Rájá Rám Chandra Tondamán Bahádur, by the Madras Government. The same Authority has lately withdrawn it temporarily, letter

25th May 1859, in consequence of the Rájá's dissipated and extravagant habits.

12. The case of Narasingha Ráo, late Head Sarishtadár to the Board of Revenue, is too recent to require detailed notice, and is fully explained in the speech of His Excellency the Governor, published in the *Fort Saint George Gazette*.

13. The above are the only instances that can be found. In the case of Ramaswami Sivasamudram, and Venkata Ráo, Native Assistant to the Mysore Commission, the Titles were conferred by the Supreme Government, and the parties could not be said to be under the authority of the Government of Fort Saint George. In the case of Sulóchana Mudaliyár, the Supreme Government have distinctly recognized the principle that titles conferred on Natives within the scope of the authority of the Government of Fort Saint George, should emanate from that authority. The title bestowed on the late Rájá of Pudukóttai may be said to have proceeded originally from the Supreme Government, but it was continued to, and has recently been taken from his son by the Government of Madras. The title of Nawáb was bestowed on, or renewed to the Jágirdár of Banganapalle by the Madras Government. He may be said to be within the scope of their authority. He holds his Jágir under a sunnad from them, and has not the power of carrying out capital sentences without their sanction.

14. With regard to persons under the authority of the Government of Fort Saint George, claiming or assuming Titles or Distinctions which have not been conferred upon them by the British Government, it is to be remarked that the Zamíndárs of Vijayanagaram and Bobbili, in the district of Vizagapatam, both style themselves Rájás, and the former, especially, is generally so termed in the district. On one occasion the Madras Government objected to the recognition of the Zamíndár of Vijayanagaram as a Rájá. Subsequently, the Vijayanagaram Zamíndár, in a letter to the Agent, styled himself "His Highness," and the Government (Extract Minutes of Consultation, 28th July 1857) observed thereon, that this title "had not been granted, and was not recognized by Government." On the Zamíndár of Bobbili assuming the same title, the Government remarked, 15th May 1858, that the Proprietor of the Bobbili estate was a Zamíndár, and that although the Governor in Council did not object to the Agent addressing him as Rájá by way of courtesy, he could not admit the propriety of such a title as His Highness, which is only due to Royalty. It may be inferred, therefore, that in like

manner the Government have acquiesced in the assumption by the Vijayanagaram Zamindár of the title of Rájá.

15. The Bibí of Cannanore assumed to herself the title of Queen
 Bibí of Cannanore. Bibí of Cannanore, and Sovereign of
 the Laccadive group, but the Government, Extract Minutes of Consultation, 26th October 1857, Revenue Department, declined to receive any communication from her in which she claimed either Sovereign Rights or the rank or title of Queen, and an address in which she had so styled herself was returned to her. The Bibí, too, made it matter of complaint against Mr. Robinson, Collector of Malabar, that he did not address her as Highness. Mr. Robinson explained, letter 29th September 1857, that the title had not been used prior to 1820, and had been discontinued by Mr. Conolly in 1848.

16. The Government Agent at Chepauk, in his letter of 2nd June 1858, No. 987, has noticed the many occasions on which, since the accession of the Nawáb Azím-ud-Daulah Bahádúr, in 1801, that Prince and his successors have conferred titles as well as other honorary insignia on Natives, Hindoo no less than Mahomedan. It should be noted, however, that on the last Nabob attempting to bestow the title of Khan and Bahadoor, with a signet ring, on a Mussulman Tahsildar in the Nellore District, the Government, Extract Minutes of Consultation, 23rd August 1853, declared themselves "unable to recognize the authority of the Nabob to confer on the Tahsildar a title of any description."

17. With respect to Military Titles and Distinctions, none have been conferred on Soldiers of the Native Army, since the institution of the Orders of Merit and of British India in 1837. Those given antecedently are shown in the annexed Table, which has been prepared in the Adjutant General's Office, according to the form sent down by the Government of India.

18. The Civil Titles bestowed, as recounted in the above precis, have also been tabulated, as far as the information about them extends, in the same form.

19. The Government of India, besides inviting (1) the suggestions of this Government on the subject, generally, recognizing (2) the necessity of placing the whole matter on a clear and intelligible footing, of defining (3) the (A) titles to be given, (B) the rank and precedence to accompany them, (C) the forms of address to be observed, (D) the classes of persons to whom, and (E) services for which, each description of title

should be granted, and intimating their intention of carefully preparing a Code* of rules for that object, have indicated certain points for consideration: These are,

1st.—Whether there should be any, and if any, what change in the titles now given.

2nd.—Whether there should be any, and if any, what additional Titles and Honorary Distinctions.

3rd.—Whether the bestowal of titles should be accompanied by any, and if any by what decorations or substantial advantages, or both.

4th.—Whether titles should be in any case hereditary.

5th.—Whether the same titles should be granted for social position, for long good conduct, and for special service, or whether they should be different.

6th.—Whether there should be one, or more than one Order; and whether in each Order the number of titles of each grade or class should be limited or unlimited.

7th.—Whether the Governments of Bombay and Madras should continue to exercise the power of conferring Titles and Distinctions, or whether the power throughout India should be confined to the Governor General in Council.

- 20. The Supreme Government entertain no doubt of the propriety of prohibiting the Native Subjects of Her Majesty from receiving titles from Titular Native Princes, nor from real independent Native Princes, at least without the consent of their own Government; and they consider that titles should not be conferred on European British Subjects, except by the Crown.

* NOTE.—If such a scheme or code of rules is to be prepared in this Presidency it must be entrusted to a Committee, or some individual specially appointed for the purpose; and conversant with the subject and state of native feeling upon it.

RETURNS of the Titles and Honorary Distinctions which have been conferred by the British Government on Native Chiefs and others within the scope of the authority of the Government of Fort Saint George.

Name of person and present Title or Distinction, in full.	Authorized style of address.	District and place of residence.	Rank or profession, whether independent or Tributary Chief, Zemindar, or otherwise.	Date on which Title or Distinction was bestowed.	Why bestowed, whether for service or on succession, or otherwise.	If on succession, date on which similar Titles first bestowed on the family by British Government.
Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Janapakarta Karta...	Jan/pakāra Karta ...	Mysore,—is dead ..	Jāgirdar of Island of Sriramsudram, in the Cauvery River	9th October 1834	For benefitting the public by building a bridge over the Cauvery	Not on succession.
Venkata Rao ..	Rāi Rāya Rāi ...	Native of Tanjore, but employed in Mysore —dead	Native Assistant to Mysore Commission ...	20th April 1838	Long and faithful service	Do.
Ghulam Ali Khan, Jāgirdar of Banganapalle, Nawab Bahadur Dil Jung Mansur U Daulah Bahadur ..	Nawab Bahadur Dil Jung Mansur U Daulah Bahadur ..	Banganapalle, Jagir ..	Jāgirdar of Banganapalle, holds under Sunnah from British Government, pays no Tribute ..	3rd June 1839	In succession ...	In succession to his Grandfather, to whom title granted by Nizam, date not known.
His Excellency Rājā Rām Chandra Rao Bahadur, Rājā of Pudukottah...	His Excellency ...	Pudukōtta, Territory, adjoining Tanjore District ..	Rājā, dependent, but not Tributary...	10th Sept. 1839	Ditto	Title bestowed on his Father by Supreme Government, date not known.
Narasimha Rao ..	Rāi Rāya Rāi ...	Madras, Trichpale ..	Head Sanisheadar of the Board of Revenue ..	24th May 1859	For faithful and efficient services, extending over a period of 40 years	Not on succession.

RET there within the scope of the authority.

Name for service, or on succession, otherwise.	If on succession, date on which similar Title first bestowed on the family by British Government.
• Subad and successful diligence in pres and Artillery.	No
Subad ed d services. Rec Hon usin	No
Subad vices in Persia and Asser- Gue Lord Jones and Sir John him with and vices, fidelity and attach- respectability of character, Subad the field. Was acting in cons- de-Camp to Sir Thomas Nauder Campbell, Sir Thomas Naralker, and Sir R. W. O'Cal- lived the confidence and good allor uished Officers.	No
Subad pedition to Egypt, and also der Lord Cornwallis and Lighter engagements, and has Pal- quished himself for his zeal ed w mpany's interests.	No
• Subad f as a zealous, brave, and resent at several engage- Cav the signalized himself in a and under Lieut. Brooks, near the approved and commended his services, &c.	No
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s in the

Adjunged) CRAWFORD COOKE,
Fl. St. Deputy Adjutant General of the Army.

No. 15.

From Major R. WALLACE, Resident at Baroda, to C. BEADON, Esquire, Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 31, dated the 4th August 1859.

I do myself the honor to reply to your letter of the 25th May last, No. 3019, (Circular) calling for an opinion and suggestions on the subject of granting Titles and Honorary Distinctions to Natives and Native Chiefs of India.

2. I presume that my own personal experience will be found to tally with that of others, that very great importance is attached by Natives and Native Chiefs of India to any distinction of this kind, and also that the British Government has on the whole unwisely neglected this mode of exerting influence over its native subjects.

3. As the returns to your Circular will be numerous and perhaps voluminous, it will be well that I should state very briefly my opinion, as follows :

1st.—A distinction should be drawn between Civil and Military services to the State in the honorary rewards assigned to them.

2nd.—No title should be hereditary, unless supported by an entailed adequate estate in land.

3rd.—That every hereditary title granted by the British Government, should be granted solely by the Crown, and should have an English designation.

4th.—That the subordinate as well as the Supreme Government should have the power (under certain rules, applicable to the whole Indian Empire) of granting non-hereditary titles with Indian or English designations, as may seem suitable.

5th.—That public servants, after long and faithful, though perhaps not distinguished service, should on retirement receive some Honorary Distinctions, Titles, and Decorations.

6th.—That such distinctions, even if unaccompanied by any substantial or pecuniary advantage, would be much coveted.

7th.—That the social habits of the Natives admit of a very wide range in the selection of personal decorations.

8th.—That tables (for the guidance of European Functionaries) should be prepared for the regulation of precedence among Natives holding all manner of titles.

9th.—That lists should be prepared by European Functionaries of all persons, within their cognizance, possessing or claiming titles, in order that after due scrutiny, registers of such persons may be published for general information, and that their admitted social status may be defined and made known to the public.

4. In conclusion, I beg to state that no persons within the circle of my superintendence is in possession of any Title, Distinction, or Decoration bestowed by the British Government, with the exception of His Highness the Guicowar, who was granted (*vide* letter 15th January 1859, No. 346) the use of Morehuls by the Right Hon'ble the Viceroy and Governor General for his fidelity, a distinction or decoration, which I may add gave great pleasure to His Highness, his family, and his people.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) R. WALLACE, *Major*.

No. 16.

From Lieutenant Colonel A. P. PHAYRE, Commissioner of Pegu, and Agent to the Governor General, to C. BEADON, Esquire, Secretary to the Government of India, in the Foreign Department, No. 122, dated Henzada, the 8th August 1859.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letters
No. 3049, dated the 25th May last, and
No. 3841, dated the 28th June, with enclosures, relative to the grant of Titles and Honorary Distinctions to native gentlemen.

2. I regret that, in consequence of my absence from Rangoon, some delay has unavoidably occurred both in the receipt by me of the letters under reply, and in the collection of information which was necessary in order to comply with the orders contained in those Circulars.

3. I called upon Major T. P. Sparks, the Judicial Deputy Commissioner at Rangoon, to favor me with his opinion on the subject, as regards the natives of Pegu, and I beg to submit copy of his reply, being letter No. 257, dated the 20th ultimo, with enclosure.

4. I fully agree with Major Sparks, that the Titles and Honorary Distinctions which may be conferred on those of the Burmese, Talaing, and Karen subjects of the Crown, who shall be deemed worthy of such marks of favor, will be thoroughly appreciated by them. It is a subject which has frequently occupied my attention previous to the receipt of your letters under reply, because I have long perceived that there was a want of some mode of marking the approbation of Government by the bestowal of tokens of favor on natives of the country, whether in the Government service or not, who deserved such distinction. This was more especially brought to my notice on my Mission to the Court of Ava in 1855, when I saw how chains of gold and other insignia of office and honour were worn by Burmese Officials according to their rank, and that the distinction was highly prized by all. It also appeared to me that such insignia were regarded with longing by those Burmese who accompanied me, and who felt conscious that, if open to them, they might earn similar marks of distinction.

5. But although I feel confident that the principle of granting Titles and Honorary Distinctions both for particular services and for general merit is a sound one for these people, I feel some difficulty in recommending the particular mode to be adopted in carrying out this principle in the Province of Pegu. The titles and distinctions which are at present bestowed upon natives of India would not be understood or appreciated by the people of Pegu. On the other hand, I am unwilling to recommend any plan by which our Government would appear to imitate the Court of Ava in the nature of Honors and Titles bestowed. On the whole, however, I am of opinion, that some of the titles used by that Court may properly be preserved, but that the insignia which generally or rather invariably accompany the bestowal of a title, should under the British Government be altered or modified.

6. In considering what titles may be adopted from those now

granted by the Burmese Court, it will not be necessary to provide for those of the highest rank, because there are not in this Province any natives in private life who may be considered as of a higher social rank than a respectable Zemindar in Bengal or in the Central Gangetic Provinces ; and among the Burmese Officials under our Government, the highest at present will rank with a Principal Sudder Ameen. I propose, therefore, to omit altogether such titles as are now conferred by the Burmese Court on the Ministers of State, superior and subordinate, and on Governors of Provinces. There is no class of persons now in Pegu on whom such high and dignified titles could appropriately be bestowed. Military titles I should also omit, as not required to be included in the present report, and because the Burmese Military titles all refer to Officers in command of the household troops at the King's Palace.

7. With the titles conferred by the Court of Burmah, and which are enumerated in the schedule attached to Major Spark's letter, the following insignia are given :

1. Gold chains, varying in number according to the rank of the person.
2. Caps of State or Coronets.
3. Gold or plain umbrellas.
4. Spittoons of mixed metal, or of silver.

8. For Pegu I should beg to recommend that three grades of Civil Titles be established by Government, with suitable insignia to accompany the bestowal of the title. In the schedule annexed to this letter, I have ventured to suggest what titles I consider suited to the Government Servants and others among the people of the Province of Pegu, and the insignia which might accompany them. I have proposed medals to be suspended from gold or silver chains, and have omitted the Caps of State and the Spittoons. I propose to retain gilt and plain umbrellas as the most common distinctive mark of rank in Burmah, which is more readily appreciated by the people in the streets, or at festivals, than any other. When a title is conferred, a patent should be made out on parchment, and be presented to the recipient,

together with the insignia, publicly by the Commissioner or other Civil Officer in the name of the Viceroy and Governor General.

9. Extraordinary good service, whether by a Government Officer in any grade or by a private individual, might be rewarded by appointment at once to any class of title. It will not be necessary, I think, to add any pecuniary reward, nor to make the titles hereditary, but the medals would remain heir-looms in the families of those who originally received them.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) A. P. PHAYRE.

SCHEDULE of Titles with accompanying Honorary insignia deemed suitable for Natives of Pegu.

CLASS.	TITLE IN BURMESE.	IN ENGLISH.	INSIGNIA.	REMARKS.
I.	Maha men his Dhammee ka Raisa or Maha men his Atoo-la Raisa.	Great Chief Excellent just Rajs. Great Chief just ba- lancing Rajs.	A Gold Medal, 1½ inch in diameter, attached to a clasp and either worn round the neck or sus- pended from the breast by twelve (12) Gold wrought chains. The Medal to have on one side the individual's name and title with a motto such as "Reward of Fidelity and Virtue," and on the other the name and Title of the Governor Gen- eral bestowing the distinction. The inscription to be in the Burmese language, except the name and title of the Governor General. A gilt umbrella, with a border four inches deep, painted red.	The rank of persons in the Government services to whom class I. would generally be open, would be Twoons (Chief Revenue Officers in a district) or waoons (Chief Revenue Officers in a district) or persons in private life of a respectable status in Society who rendered any great service to Govern- ment, persons who have served 15 years with credit in the offices above named, or in any higher office would be considered eligible. If a Burmese is admitted to the rank of extra Assistant Commissioner, I would allow five years in that grade of meritorious service to be considered as rendering him eligible to this class.
II.	Maha men his nan rahis or Maha men hah men gyen Hahis or Tha manda thahis gyahthen Nan ra his or Maha men his Tha manda Rajs.	Great and celebrated Chief	A Silver medal, two inches in diameter, as above suspended by (8) nine wrought Gold chains, inscriptions as above. A red umbrella with Golden apex.	The rank of persons to whom this Title would be open would be Myookes (answering to Tabet- dats of India), officers in the Police Corps. The Head Burmese writer in the Commissioner's Office. Ten years' good service would render them eligible.
III.	Shwe Young Bam rahis tsee thoo or Shwe Young Deyra thoo ra.	Terms of respectability. do. do.	A Silver medal 1½ inches in diameter, with name and motto as above, attached by six Silver chains. A black Umbrella.	This class is open to Thoo gyees, or Revenue and Police Officers of Circles, Non-Commissioned Officers in Police Corps, Writers in the several district offices, and also to any person who performs meritorious service to Government or the commu- nity Ten years' service. It is to be distinctly under- stood that great meritorious service will render a Government servant eligible to receive either class of title, whether he has served the above periods or not.

Note.—Should circumstances hereafter arise which render it advisable to bestow on any Native of Pegu a higher title than is now proposed, a title similar to that given to a Governor of a Province, or other high Officer under the Burmese Government, with insignia similar to those above recommended, might be specially bestowed by the Governor General.

It is difficult to give a true translation of the titles. They are a mixture of Vernacular, Burmese, and Pali, and few people can give distinct explanations of them, or account for their origin.

PAGE COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE, }
BENZAD, }
The 8th August 1889. (Signed) A. F. PHAYRE,
Commr of Pegu, and
Agent to the Govt. Genl.

No. 18.

From T. P. SPARKS, Esquire, Judicial Deputy Commissioner, Rangoon, to Lieutenant Colonel A. P. PHAYRE, Commissioner of Pegu, and Agent to the Governor General, No. 257, dated the 20th June 1859.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 108, of the 8th instant, forwarding in original a Circular letter to your address, dated 25th May last, with enclosure, relative to titles and honorary distinctions to Natives and Native Chiefs of India, and calling for my opinion on the subject, as applicable to the natives of Pegu.

As directed, I beg to submit the following observations:

Agreeing as I do most heartily in the admitted policy of conferring more generally than we have ever done hitherto, titles and honorary distinctions, upon deserving natives of India, I believe that in no part of the British dominions in the East would this measure be productive of more striking and favorable results than in the Provinces won from the Burmese Empire.

The fondness for titles and all the minutiae of social distinctions is with the Burmese a passion extending to the regulation of their dress, their ornaments, their utensils, and even the roofs of the houses.

I am perfectly satisfied that the strongest blow we could strike at that mighty and almost undiminished influence which the Court of Ava still exercises over the imagination of our subjects in Pegu would be to show to them, by an unmistakeable sign, one appealing to their hearts and understandings infinitely more than any printed Proclamation, however promulgated, that the Queen of Great Britain is *de facto* as well as *de jure* the Sovereign of British Burmah.

This sign would be the conferring, with all due pomp and parade, in the name of Her Majesty, a title with its appropriate insignia, upon some one or more of the natives of Pegu, Tenasserim, and Arracan.

If, as I earnestly hope, this is to be done at all, it should be done in my opinion at once. It should be made in the eyes of the people to appear, not as a sudden change or innovation, but as the necessary inevitable consequence of the assumption by the Queen to the direct Sovereignty over these realms.

Then it will be felt indeed that the change of Government from the

Company to the Queen is not a mere change of name with which the people have no concern, and in which they indeed feel no interest. Then the eyes of the ambitious, the hopeful, and the energetic, in fact of all the best men in the community, will cease to turn their longing glances towards the Golden Foot, and direct them instead to a Throne which they will see, as soon as they are induced to think, as a Fountain of Honor immeasurably transcends that of the Lord of the White Elephant, shorn as it is of its former power, wealth, and territory.

I beg to annex as an Appendix to this letter, a schedule of the different titles, Civil and Military, in use in the the Court of Ava, together with the insignia attached to each, for which I am indebted to Mr. Edwards. It will be seen from these, as you are well aware, how nicely graduated they are, so as to afford to Government the means of rewarding appropriately almost every possible grade of merit.

It is only necessary to remark in conclusion that titles conferred by a Burmese Sovereign are not hereditary, and for manifold reasons doubtless it will not be the policy of our Government to make them so either, nor is it customary to give any money grant with a Burmese title, though an appointment to some office in the State always accompanies it.

The original enclosures are returned.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) T. P. SPARKS.

No. 19.

SCHEDULE of Titles conferred by the Court of Ava, with their appropriate Insignia.

Ranks of Officers on whom the Titles are conferred.	MILITARY TITLES.	INSIGNIA.			
		Coronet or Helmet.	Gold Collar, Number of separate chains composing.	Cup.	Umbrella.
6. Atreng Khyouk Tso, or Commandants of the six Battalions of Household Troops.	Toung Daway Bo Maha Mengtenj Menyan Bala Myouk Daway Bo Maha Meng Yan Zayya Bala Toung M-dara penj Bo Maha Mengroung Daywa Bala Myouk Madarapay Bo Maha Menghla Bala Thoooring Toung Taya ngayay Bo Maha Menghla Bala Mengoung Raja Myouk Taya ngazay Bo Maha Menghla Kyanzwa	Crest of the helmet, shaped like a flag.	9	Silver.	Gilt.
	Natsoo Letya Maha Menghla Thin Bala Yanoung Natsoo Letwai Maha Menghla Bala Yanoung Natsheng Yooay Letya Maha Menghla Yaigoung Thoorieng Natshing Yooay Letway Maha Menghla Bala Menjoung Raja Khyouk Khyoung Bo Maha Menghla Daywa Bala Yaigoung Lengzen Bo Maha Menghla Bala Namata	Crest like an Umbrella.	9	Silver.	Gilt.
Pyen Khyouk Tso, or Commandants of the six Battalions of Guards.					

(Signed) T. P. SPARKS,
Judicial Depy. Commr.

No. 20.

SCHEDULE of Titles conferred by the Court of Ava, with their appropriate Insignia.

Rank of Officers on whom the Titles are conferred.	CIVIL TITLES.	INSIGNIA.			
		Coronet, number of ornaments.	Gold Collar, number of separate chains composed.	Cup.	Umbrella.
Hloot dan, Mengyee or Cabinet Ministers	(Thado Mengyee Menghla Maha Meng Aeng { Thado Mengyee Maha Menghla Thecha thoo Thado Mengyee Maha Menghla Mengoung { Thado Mengyee Maha Raja Thengyan	12	12	{ Pinch- beck, }	Gilt all over.
Bayai Taik, Atween Woongyee, or Keepers of the Great Seal and Royal Archives	(Mengyee Maha Menghla Rajah { Mengyee Maha Mengyan Tseung Mengyee Maha Mengteng Mngoung { Mengyee Maha Mengteng Raurata	12	12	Ditto.	Ditto.
Wendan Hmoo or Warders of the Palace Gates	(Mengyee Maha Tengkya Mengoung { Mengyee Maha Tseethoo Kyanteng Mengyee Maha Nanda Thengyan { Mengyee Maha Raja Mengoung	12	12	Ditto.	Ditto.
Hloot dan Woon dauk or Assistant Ministers	{ Maha Menghla Mengteng Kyawza Maha Menghla Mengoung Thiri Maha Menghla Mengteng Tseethoo { Maha Menghla Mengoung Thoorieng	12	9	{ Silver }	{ Gilt round the edge with red space in Cup.

Rank of Officers on whom the Titles are conferred.	CIVIL TITLES.	INSEPIA.			
		Coronet, number of ornaments on.	Gold Collar, number of separate chains composing.	Cup.	Umbrella
Myowoon or Governors of Provinces or the Metropolis	{ Mengyee Maha Mengoung Raja { Mengyee Maha Mengoung Raurata	12	12	Pinch-back.	Gilt all over.
Poung woon or Royal Barge master and Admiral of all the war boats	{ Maha Menghla Mengoung Raja	12	12	Silver { round the edge, red Centre.	Gilt
Taruma Thoogyee or Chief Judges	{ Maha Menghla Dammika Raja { Maha Menghla Atoola Raja	12	12	Silver.	Ditto.
Byai Talk Thandan tshen or Herald	{ Maha Mengalay { Maha Mengoung { Maha Menghla Raurata { Maha Meng Rgay Mengteng	9	9	Ditto.	Ditto.
Hloodtan Nakhan or (no equivalent in English)	{ Maha Menghla Mengyan { Maha Menghla Mengyan Raja { Maha Menghla Kyanzawa { Maha Menghla Thiri Kyanzwa	9	9	Ditto.	Ditto.
Kloodtan Tsary Gyee or Secretaries of State	{ Menteng Mengyan { Menteng Mengoung { Mengyaw Menghla Raja { Mengteng Menghla Gyan	9	9	Ditto.	Ditto.

Amengdan Ahmsdan yuy Tsaray Under Secretaries	{ Shooy Dounng Naurata Tseethoo Shooy Dounng Kyazwa Shooy Dounng Kyanzthoo Naurata Shooy Dounng Tayya Thoora	{ 8	{ Ditto.	{ Green with a gilt-epike.
Tsaray Ngay or Clerks of the Council	{ Naymyo Naurata Naymyo Thoora Shooy dounng Tayya Naymyo Tseethoo Naurata	{ 7 •	{ Ditto.	{ Ditto.

(Signed)

T. P. SPARKS,

Judicial Depy. Commr.

No. 21.

From, R. H. DAVIES, Esquire Secretary to Government, Punjab and its Dependencies, to the Secretary to the Government of India, in the Foreign Department, No. 631, dated Lahore, the 9th September 1859.

I AM directed to reply as follows to your letter No. 3049, dated 25th May last, on the grant of Titles and Honorary Distinctions to Natives and Native Chiefs in India.

2. I am to address myself to the consideration of the subject chiefly as it affects the Punjab and its Dependencies. The following is a list of titles (Khitab) taken from the records of the Delhi Agency :

FOR HINDOOS

FOR MAHOMEDANS.

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Rai or Rao. | Khan. |
| 2. Do. Do. Bahadoor. | Khan Bahadoor. |
| 3. Rana Bahadoor | Nawab. |
| 4. Rajah Bahadoor. | Nawab Bahadoor. |
| 5. Raj Rana. | Khan (after the name.) |
| 6. Rao Rajah. | Dowlah (as Azeemoodowlah). |
| 7. Maharana. | Moolk (as Mookhtarool Moolk.) |
| 8. Maharajah. | Jung (as Feroze Jung.) |
| 9. Maha Rao Rajah. | Moomahk (Wuzer-ool-Moomahk.) |
| 10. Shree Maharajah. | Ameerool-oomra. |
| 11. Maharajah Sowai. | Wukeel-mootluk. |
| 12. Maharajah Dhiraj | Furzinda Khas. |
| 13. Maharajah Rajgaun. | Furzinda Urjunud, |
| 14. Raj Rajeshwar. | Arrakeen as Oindutool-Arrakeen. |
| 15. Maharajah Rajeshwar. | |

To these must be added the title of Sirdar, which is the commonest of all in the plains of the Punjab and in Affghanistan. The Chief of Cabul alone is called Ameer.

3. Where the holder of the title is a territorial Chief, it is usually hereditary; but no *strict* rule on this head obtains. The titles conferred by the Lahore Durbar at the instance of the British Resident on Rajah Deena Nath and Nawab Imamoodeen were personal. In some cases, second titles, borne by the sons, exist. The

sons of the Ameer of Cabul are designated "Sirdars;" of the Maharajah of Cashmere, "Meean;" of other Rajahs, "Kunwur."

4. Besides titles, the style of address in writing is graduated according to rank; and a word or two more or less makes a considerable difference in this respect. At present these forms are used somewhat arbitrarily, and require to be authoritatively prescribed.

5. The titles held by the Rajpoots of the Hills are mostly ancient and indigenous. The Newabs of Mooltan, Bhawulpore, and Derah Ismael Khan were created by the Imperial Dynasty of Delhi. The Maharajah of Puttiala obtained his title from Ahmed Khan Docranee. The Rajah of Nabha is believed to have been created by the Emperor; the Rajahs of Jheend, Ladwa, and Furreedkot, by our own Government.

6. It is certain the Natives of India set a high value on honorary distinctions of all kinds, and the Queen's assumption of the Government affords the most favorable opportunity for regulating their grant.

7. The Lieutenant Governor considers it advisable to maintain the existing and well-known title in preference to any new institution. Care should also be taken in conferring such as are valued in the territory where the recipient resides. For instance, the title of Sirdar might be appropriately bestowed on a Seikh, who would not care to take the Madras title of Polygar. Equality of honor might be conferred without identity of designation. But the relative rank and precedence, conferred by enrolment in each order of nobility, should be clearly defined; and consequently all titles should be classified, though there would remain diversities of title in each class. Again, there are good reasons why there should be grades in each class. For it has been shown that there already exists an hereditary nobility, which is secure of general recognition and respect in the country, whatever measures our Government may take; and its members must be included in any list which we may legalize. Yet, in many cases, however old their titles, they themselves would not be notable either for personal distinction or for great possessions. Others again, with identical titles, might be worthy of admission to a higher grade on account of services performed to our Government,

or of territorial importance. Advantage should be taken in determining what titles are hereafter to be acknowledged to make them short and simple, and curtail the lengthy appellations of the Mahomedan régime.

8. The grant of a title should, the Lieutenant Governor considers, invariably be accompanied by a *khillut* proportioned to the rank of the recipient. And occasionally, according to the circumstances of the case, a pension or Jagheer must be assigned.

9. As a general rule, the Lieutenant Governor holds that our creations should *not* be hereditary. But where exceptions may be expedient, it should be a received condition either that the candidate has sufficient wealth to support the title, and to leave an entail, or that the Government should attach a grant of land or money to the title, subject to the law of primogeniture.

10. The Lieutenant Governor sees no cause for limiting the number in each grade.

11. Local Governments, His Honor thinks, may be advantageously invested with the power of conferring the lower classes of titles, such as Rai Bahadoor, Chowdhree, &c., with *khilluts* of investiture. Superior titles, such as Rajah, Rana, Sirdar, Newab, &c. should be bestowed only by the Viceroy of India; whilst the highest class of all should be reserved for the grant of the Queen. All grants should be made in an authorized form by letters patent; and should be carefully announced in the *Gazettes*. At the same time, the forms of address should be prescribed and notified. It might further be expedient to design certain insignia, distinctive of the rank of each grade to be worn on public occasions; for instance scarves of different colors. At the same time, it is desirable that tables should be drawn up, in accordance with which the order of precedence should be regulated, and the opportunity might be taken to revise the existing styles of address (*Alqáb*), often florid and verbose as they are, and give them a fresh value and greater simplicity.

12. There are some feudatory Chiefs already in enjoyment of the highest titles, and of large territory. But on these it is still in our power to confer distinction by increasing the number of guns

allowed, or the number of trays presented at public durbars, or heightening the style of address. These honors are much valued and should be duly regulated.

13. In conclusion, I am to remark, that honors should not be lightly given, but when promised should not be delayed, particularly in cases where reference to England is necessary.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) R. H. DAVIES.

No. 22.

MINUTE BY LIEUTENANT GENERAL THE HON'BLE SIR
JAMES OUTRAM, Bt., DATED 28TH JUNE 1859.

Titles—Honorary Rank—and other distinctions to be created for the Empire of India.

OUR late call on the subordinate Governments for their opinions as to Titles, Honorary Rank, &c., to be conferred on Natives of distinction, has led me to record my own views on that subject, for the consideration of His Excellency the Governor General in Council, in the hope that my proposals may be deemed worthy of being submitted, with the support of His Lordship and my Hon'ble Colleague, to the Secretary of State for India,—or, if not with their entire support, at least with their comments, suggesting such modifications and alterations as they deem desirable.

2. I do not consider that merely upholding the existing, and creating an additional native aristocracy, will alone suffice for the object we have in view. And I long therefore to witness the inauguration of a still more comprehensive system of Honorary rewards than those we have yet contemplated, which would reach only the higher classes—and that only to a very limited extent. I desire to see introduced such a system of Honorary distinctions as, without cost to the State, can be more generally disseminated throughout the vast population of India, and be rendered available to all ranks and classes.

3. I feel assured that, by the judicious distribution of Honors, both personal and hereditary, we have it in our power vastly to increase the attachment of the more influential natives of India to the British Crown, and to elicit from them much active aid in the

internal Government of the country—in amending its institutions—in developing its resources—and in furtherance of those philanthropic objects for the achievement of which we must necessarily be in a great measure dependant on their liberality and personal exertions.

4. But I am equally certain that no Order of Honor, and no Title of nobility, of *our invention*, exclusively confined to natives, will possess the same value in their estimation as honorary distinctions and titles of nobility participated in by Europeans, and by Europeans sought as objects of ambition. I believe that the late Sir Charles Napier enunciated a profound truth, and one of comprehensive application, when, adverting to the Indian order of merit, and claiming for the native officers of the Indian Army a participation in the honors of the Bath, he wrote—"It is not merely honors that they crave. They desire to share *our* honors—the identical honors it is *our* ambition to attain; and sound policy demands that they should be permitted to share them." I quote from memory, not having at hand Sir Charles Napier's work on "Indian Misgovernment." But if these be not the exact words of the great warrior statesman whose authority I cite, they differ from his only in being perhaps less forcible.

5. I sincerely trust that the day is not far distant, when our beloved Queen will graciously deign to elevate to the peerage even, many native gentlemen within Her Indian dominions of the calibre, character, and position of my revered friend the late Sir Jamsetjee Jeejeebhoy. I hope that ere long Her Majesty's Knightage and Baronetage will embrace scores, if not hundreds, of native gentlemen. And I trust the Viceroys of India hereafter will liberally avail themselves of what I regard as an inherent function of viceroyalty—the creation of Knights Bachelors. But more than this is, in my own opinion, desirable. And I would respectfully, but earnestly entreat His Excellency the Viceroy, and my Honorable colleague in Council, to move the Right Hon'ble the Secretary of State for India, to obtain Her Majesty's consent to the institution of a new "Order of Victoria," to which Natives of India, and Europeans who have rendered good service in the interests of India, be they in Her Majesty's service or not, shall be equally eligible.

6. The institution of such an order would, I feel assured, be regarded by our native brethren as a most acceptable boon—a convincing proof of the deep personal interest taken by their Sovereign in Her Native Indian subjects. It might, I am satisfied, be made the means of stimulating, to an extent hitherto unknown, the exertions of our Native Chiefs, gentry, and public servants, in the maintenance of order, in the suppression of crime, in the amelioration of existing native institutions; in the diffusion of education, and generally, in promoting the material and moral welfare of this country.

7. To our Civil, Military, Naval, and Medical services, and to those who, not members of the public service, but honorably engaged in commercial or professional pursuits, have labored and still labor in the interests of India, the institution of such an order would be little more than an act of justice. There are many, aye, very many Anglo-Indians, whose labors in India, though necessarily unappreciated at home, by reason of their undemonstrative nature, are known to us to be such as would, had they been performed in England, or in a small English Colony, have procured for them admission to the Knightage, the Baronetage, and even the Peerage. To admit all such to the honors of the Bath would be to swamp that order. But it appears to me that to withhold honorary distinctions from them altogether, is ungenerous and unwise. It is, I conceive, voluntarily to deprive ourselves of a moral engine of vast power, of comprehensive capabilities, and of inexpensive construction and maintenance. At present the Governor General, and the subordinate Governors, have scarcely any means of rewarding earnest and efficient service, save by translating their performers to more lucrative offices. And all of us must have seen many instances in which recourse to this method of reward has proved positively injurious to the public interests. The order of talent which secures success in an executive post, does not necessarily imply an equal adaptation for duties of a controlling nature. Still less do the physical, mental, and moral qualities, which specially fit a man for one department, render him even moderately efficient in another. And even when the translated officer is otherwise well suited to the more lucrative post bestowed on

him as a reward for past services, he assumes it deficient in that local knowledge of persons and localities on which his past efficiency in no small degree depended, and devoid of that deep personal interest in the affairs of his district which a long control of its affairs had necessarily begot, and the influence of which all of us practically know to be of inestimable value, alike to manager and managed.

8. Many of the difficulties here glanced at, would be overcome by the institution of such an order as I have suggested; for by many, and by many of the most estimable of our servants, honorary rewards would be regarded as an equivalent for non-advancement to more lucrative offices. And how many are there who have deserved well of Government, but on whom the rules of the service, and our financial arrangements, prevent our bestowing increased salaries?

9. I believe I am not unreasonable in assuming that the institution of such an order would (under existing pay regulations) entice to the competition examinations for Civil Service appointments even a higher class of men than those who now present themselves. And as the allowances of the Indian Civil Service must soon be seriously reduced, it is, I believe, only by making that service an avenue to titular honors, and a ready means of earning that social distinction which titular honors secure, that we can hope to make it an object of ambition to the educated youth of Britain.

10. The participation, on equal terms, in the honors of such an order, would, I believe, create amongst its European and native members, in a very marked degree, what the French call *solidarité*, begetting an identity of social position, a community of class sentiment, and a fraternity of feeling not otherwise createable, but of incalculable benefit to the interests of the State, and the cause of *progress*. It would do more than any other agency which I can imagine, to overshadow the traditions of Delhi.

11. How far admission to the new Order should be extended to Ceylon, Singapore, and our Chinese Colony, might be a question. But a wider franchise, that is, its conversion into a general Colonial Order, would, in my opinion, be injurious to the cause I advocate. If, in the opinion of the Colonial Office, another—a Colonial—Order

be desirable, I see no obstacle* to its being instituted. British America, and our Australian and Tasmanian Colonies, are populous enough to maintain an Order of their own. Their utter dissimilarity in organization, character, &c., for India, would, I conceive, render a direct participation in the Order I suggest, unsatisfactory to them, and prejudicial to us.

12. In no spirit of presumption, but with the view of indicating the nature of the scheme I propose, and to exonerate myself from the charge of indulging in vague generalities and unpractical recommendations, I beg deferentially and with much diffidence to append,

A. in the form of a rough draft, the outline constitution of such an Order as I wish to see established—(marked A.)

* 13. I must admit, however, that objections have been urged to my scheme, and suggestions offered, by the only person to whom I have yet shown it, a high functionary for whose judgment I have great respect, which I consider so worthy of consideration that I feel bound to submit them also (marked B), in order that

B. they may be considered in conjunction with my own crude proposal, which, being merely offered with a view to draw attention to the subject, and in the hope that those more able than myself to deal with it may be induced thereby to take it up, I had no expectation should be implicitly adopted.

14. I admit the possibility that the Order, if at once founded on the scale I propose, might, as apprehended by my correspondent, be less highly prized at first than if it were more limited. But I consider that time would enhance its value, and that the longer established the more would the Order be appreciated. And it must be borne in mind that extensive though my proposed scale appears, it is small in proportion to our vast Indian Empire, comprising 150 millions of subjects, with an army 3,50,000 strong, and a Civil Service numbering 6,800 souls.

• 15. It may be deemed preferable, however, to have two separate Orders, as therein suggested, the one composed of only three classes, of great honor and limited extent, available to the highest functionaries of the State and the higher classes of native nobility and gentry with Her Majesty, should she so deign, as Sovereign of the

Order, and the Governor General for the time being as Grand Master. The other, of much wider scope, something of the nature of the Legion of Honor, for the recognition of approved service in every branch and class of Civil Administration, with the Viceroy, as representative of Her Majesty, at its head.

16. Before concluding this Minute, I desire to offer a few observations relative to the hope I have expressed that the Queen may be graciously pleased to admit Natives of India to the ranks of the British Peerage, and to advance many of them to the dignity of the Baronetage.

17. It is, or ought to be, a condition of the bestowal of hereditary dignities, that the title shall be endowed with such ample pecuniary resources as shall enable all successive holders to maintain a social importance commensurate with their rank. In Britain, our aristocracy is a territorial aristocracy. Those who are advanced to its titled Orders from the commercial and professional classes of society, already have possessed themselves, or on elevation possess themselves, of landed property, and the laws of England facilitate the transmission of the property from sire to son. But it is otherwise in India; and at a time when the popular voice demands the opening out of land both here and at home, it would be inopportune to urge the enactment of land entail laws, and the assimilation of the laws of succession in India to those of England. As regards India, where there is probably as much *real* need of an "Encumbered Estates Act" as in Ireland, any such attempt would be not only inopportune, but, if successful, injurious. And I am of opinion, therefore, that not merely the endowment of Baronetcies and Peerages through the public funds should be permitted, but that it should be encouraged, and by degrees rendered compulsory.

18. When conferring patents of nobility on native landholders, I would stipulate that they should annually invest a certain sum in the funds until the amount funded was such as would, at the rate of 3 per cent. (a rate which our funds may, it is to be hoped, reach ere very many years elapse, as civilization and wealth increase), produce such an annual income as Her Majesty may consider suitable to the rank bestowed. The money thus funded should, by Legislative

enactment, be rigidly *entailed* on the possessor of the title—in other words, an annuity should be purchased.

19. Gentlemen, not landed proprietors, raised to the Baronetage or Peerage, should be obliged to make investments in the funds sufficient for the endowments of their titles: it being permissible, in special cases, for a Native Baronet or Peer to endow the title only for the period of his own life (according to the value of that life as determined by his age, according to actuarial rules). Should he, in the course of his life, succeed in investing in the funds a sum sufficient for the permanent endowment of his title, that title would be made hereditary. Should he invest only enough, not for its permanent endowment, but for its endowment only for his own life, the title would lapse at his death. If enough was invested for the endowment of the title during his son's life, the son would succeed to it. And the latter should have the privilege of permanently endowing the title. In failure of his doing so, the title would lapse at his death. His eldest son would succeed merely to the life interest of the endowment, but the sum funded would remain entailed, available as a *part endowment* of the title for any of his heirs who might be able to complete the endowment, and who might be considered by Her Majesty worthy to have the title revived in his person.

20. By such an arrangement, we should, without incurring any one of the evils attributed by economists to landed entails, secure an Aristocracy for India—a body of gentlemen possessed of wealth, position, and leisure—far removed from the more vulgar struggles of life, sympathising by blood, and the various affinities of race, with the millions of India; and by education, training, and position, with the crown and people of England, and having the strongest incentives, both material and sentimental, to be loyal and faithful subjects of their Sovereign.

21. Any apprehension of practical inconvenience from admitting the nobility of India to the position of Peers of Parliament, would, I feel assured, prove illusory. But if such apprehension be entertained, there might be a separate Indian, as there are separate Irish and Scotch nobilities, sending (if any) a limited number of representatives to the House of Lords. I, however, think that when a

gracious act is to be performed, it should be performed in the fullest and most unreserved manner.

22. I believe that were such a scheme adopted, and were the gentry of India encouraged to commence investing in the funds and *entailing their investments* with a view to the future earning of nobility by their descendants, we should gradually embrace among our fund-holders the most influential men in the country. And the political advantage of such a tie it is needless to point out.

The 28th June 1859.

(Signed) J. OUTRAM.

Sketch of constitution for a new Order of Honor for India.

I. The order to be designated "The Most Honorable Order of Queen Victoria."

II. The Order to consist of

(1.) Her Majesty the Queen.

(2.) A Grand Master—the Prince Consort.

(3.) Office bearers as Her Majesty may order.

(4.) A Royal Chapter, embracing the Sovereign, the Grand Master, and such number of ordinary Members of the 1st Class as Her Majesty may order, and such extra, or *ex-officio* Members of the 1st Class, as may be determined by Her Majesty.

(5.) 1st Class—or Grand Cross.

(6.) 2nd Class—or Knights Commander.

(7.) 3rd Class—or Companions.

(8.) 4th Class—or Acolytes.

(9.) 5th Class—or Esquires.

III. Members of the Royal Chapter to be *de facto* Members of the Privy Council, or at least to enjoy by courtesy the title of "Right Honorable,"* and to have their position indicated by the letters R. C. V.

IV. The Members of the first two classes to have the Knightly designation of "Sir," and their classes of Knighthood indicated by the letters G. C. V. and K. C. V.

V. Companions, Acolytes, and Esquires, to be respectively indicated by the letters C. V., A. V., and E. V.

VI. On the institution of the Order, Her Majesty to appoint, on the recommendation of the Secretary of State for India, a certain number of Members to each class of the Order, in equal proportions from Her Majesty's European and Native Indian subjects—say 20 for the first; 40 for the second; 200 for the third; 400 for the fourth; and 600 for the fifth Class, in addition to the following functionaries who will be *ex-officio* Members of the classes attached to their names.

His Royal Highness the Command-

er-in-Chief

Grand Cross, and *ex-officio* Member
of the Royal Chapter of the
Order.

The Secretary of State for India . Ditto ditto.

The Members of the Council of India,
when not Grand Crosses, should in
virtue of that office be Knights Commanders.

The Chairmen of Committees in Coun-
cil, to be *ex-officio* Members of the
Royal Chapter of the Order.

The Governor General of India .. Grand Cross and R. C. V.

The Commander-in-Chief in India ... Ditto ditto.

The Governors in Council Grand Cross.

Lieutenant Governors Knights Commanders.

Members of the Governor General's
Council Ditto ditto.

Members of Council of Madras and
Bombay Ditto ditto.

Commander-in-Chief of the Indian
Navy Ditto ditto.

Her Majesty's Chief Justice in India Grand Cross.

Her Majesty's Puisne Judges .. Knights Commanders.

Members of Legislative Council of
India Ditto ditto.

Inspectors General of Medical Depart-
ment Ditto ditto.

Her Majesty's Advocates General Commanders.

Chief Commissioners.. .. Ditto.

VII. All functionaries hereafter nominated to any of the Offices above named, to be appointed *extra* Members of the classes severally attached to their Offices in the foregoing Clause.

VIII. On or about the 1st January annually, recommendations for admission to, or promotion in, the Order to be addressed to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India by the Governor General,

The Governors in Council of Madras and Bombay,

The Lieutenant Governors.

IX. These recommendations to embrace, as nearly as possible, equal numbers of Europeans and Natives.

X. In recommending Europeans for admission to, or promotion in, the Order, the grounds of recommendation will be stated; and it must be borne in mind that the Order is to reward *Civil* rather than *Military* services, the latter finding their more appropriate rewards in the Honors of the Bath, the Victoria Cross, the Order of Merit, and the Order of British India. Amongst the Civil Services which are to be more especially considered as constituting claims to the honors of the new Order, are—

a—Distinguished Administrative labors, eminent official aptitude and efficiency.

b—Practical Philanthropy.

c—Discoveries and researches in science.

d—Researches in Oriental Literature, History, Philosophy, and Jurisprudence.

e—Economic and Industrial researches and discoveries.

All Europeans, whether in the public service or not, who have merited the distinction according to the claims defined in *b*, *c*, *d*, and *e* to be eligible for recommendation. Of those in the service, all, however humble in rank, to be eligible for the fourth and fifth Classes. All Commissioned Officers and Covenanted Civil Servants, and Merchants, and professional men, whose social *status* is equal to that of a Commissioned Officer, to be eligible for the higher classes.

XI. In selecting natives for recommendation whether in the public service or not, especial value to be given to—

(1.) The zeal and liberality they manifest in practical and enlightened Philanthropy—such as the building and endowment of Schools, Hospitals, and Dispensaries, local Museums and Libraries, the founding of scholarships in the Public Colleges, &c. &c.

(2.) The efforts they make to aid the local authorities in the maintenance of order, the suppression of crime, the practical encouragement of sound morality, and in the development of the resources of the country.

XII. The Governor General, and the local Governors, whether Lieutenant Governors or Governors in Council, will, with the view to give full effect to the intentions of the new Order, obtain recommendations, from the heads of the several Civil and Industrial Departments within their jurisdiction, of those who have most conspicuously distinguished themselves during the previous year (or such past periods as may be specified in the first instance).

XIII. As a general rule, Military Officers below the rank of Field Officers, Covenanted Civilians of less than five years' standing, and Merchants and professional men not in the public service, will, in the first instance, be recommended for no higher than the 4th Class of the Order, though in special cases, as a recognition of special services, they may be appointed to the superior grades.

XIV. As a general rule, individuals of a higher *status* than those specified in the foregoing Clause, and whom it is desirous to reward for more important services, will be recommended in the first instance for the 3rd Class, or Companionship of the Order, their advancement to higher classes being the reward of subsequent services. And as a general rule, those of any class recommended for promotion, will be recommended only for the next higher class. But, in special cases, an individual may be promoted at once even to the 1st Class.

XV. As a general rule, the number of annual recommendations will be as follows, *viz* :

The Governor General will recommend for admission to

1st Class	3
2nd Class	5
3rd Class	20
4th Class	40
5th Class	60

The Governors in Council of Madras and Bombay, each—

1st Class	1
2nd Class	2
3rd Class	10
4th Class	20
5th Class	30

The Lieutenant Governors of Bengal, North-Western Provinces, and the Punjab, each—

1st Class	0
2nd Class	1
3rd Class	5
4th Class	10
5th Class	15

XVI. But it shall at all times be competent for the recommending authorities to present, in addition to their stipulated recommendations, the names of such individuals as have rendered special services of a distinguished nature.

XVII. In addition to the recommendations made by the Indian local authorities, the Secretary of State for India in Council will present to Her Majesty a separate list of individuals, whom he may think worthy of being admitted to, or promoted in, the Order. Should he conceive that the local authorities have omitted those who ought to have been recommended, he will supply the omission. And he will also name for admission, or promotion, such individuals in Britain or elsewhere, as have, by their labors or writings, greatly subserved the interests of India, or illustrated its Civil or Natural History, its Literature, Laws, &c.

XIX. The insignia of the different Classes to be as gorgeous as may be deemed compatible with good taste.

XX. The rules of procedure established for the Order, to be rigorously enforced at all levies, durbars, receptions, &c.

XXI. Every Civil and Military servant to be formally apprised that the Members of the 4th and 5th classes, though many of them (nay, most of them) will be Clerks, or of analagously humble positions, are *GENTLEMEN by Her Majesty's Gracious Warrant*, and are entitled as such to every courtesy and attention which one gentleman concedes to, and expects at the hands of another.

XXII. Expulsion from the Order (to be notified in the *London Gazette*, and the Gazettes of the Indian Governments) to be the penalty of disgraceful conduct of any kind, and of any overt instance of cruel or insulting conduct to any of Her Majesty's British or Indian subjects.

XXIII. The Honors of the Bath, both in its Civil and Military Divisions, to be as open to Indian Officers, Civil or Military, as at present.

B.

Objections and Suggestions referred to in paragraphs 13, 14, and 15.

Some Institution of the kind is, in my opinion, essential for the purpose of making our Government more popular with the natives, especially the higher classes.

But I should be disposed to make it *very* much more limited in its scope, at any rate for the present. If founded at once on the scale you propose, there would be imminent risk of its falling at once into disrepute.

My impression is, that it would be best to have two separate and distinct Orders: one of very high honor and limited extent, to be founded at once; another of much wider scope, embracing the recognition of approved service in every branch and class of Civil Administration, to be established afterwards.

The Royal and most Honorable "Indian Order of Queen Victoria," should I think comprise no more than three classes: Grand Cross, Knight Commander, and Companion.

The first class to consist of not more than 10, besides the high functionaries of Government down to Lieutenant Governors.

The second, of not more than 25 besides the Civil functionaries of Government, down to the Members of the Legislative Council, and the Governor of the Straits Settlement.

The third, of not more than 100 besides Civil Officers, down to the Advocates General.

The Queen should be the Sovereign of the Order, and the Governor General for the time being should be the Grand Master; the whole business of the Order being managed by the Viceroy here, assisted by a Chapter, subject only to the approbation of Her Majesty.

If the business of the Order were managed by a Chapter at home, or if the Prince Consort, or the Secretary of State had anything to do with it, the Viceroy's prestige would be greatly weakened, and anything tending to that result is, in my judgment, greatly to be deprecated.

The Viceroy should be really what his name imports, the representative of Majesty; and the stream of the fountain of honor should flow from him.

The Chapter should consist of the Queen (nominally), the Viceroy, and all the Knights Grand Cross.

The Order being especially for Civil Services, I do not think it would be right to admit Military officers *as such*, though the Order would of course be open to military men distinguished in a Civil capacity.

I do not think the Europeans and Native Members (non-official) should be in anything like equal numbers.

The Order should be chiefly for Natives, and their numbers should preponderate.

So much for the high Order of Victoria.

For the general reward of Civil Service among Natives and Natives alone, I would have a second Order something like the Legion of Honor, with the Viceroy at the head of it, not the Queen. I apprehend it would make her Majesty's name too cheap, if the honor of belonging to an Order of which she is the head, were made accessible to so many as 1,500 persons, including every grade of the service.

No. 23.

From Major W. F. EDEN, Agent, Governor General, Rajpootana States, to the Secretary to the Government of India, in the Foreign Department, No. 224, dated Camp Jyepoor, the 24th October, 1859.

IN continuation of my report No. $\frac{10}{19}$, of 5th August, and with reference to paragraphs 2 and 4 of Despatch No. 3841, of 28th June, from your Office, I have the honor to furnish the information required.

2. I much regret that, owing to the non-receipt of the reports from some of the political officers subordinate to this agency, I have been obliged thus long to delay the transmission of the general statement.

3. With one single exception, all the Princes of Rajpootana hold the rank and title hereditary in the family, and which has not been bestowed by the British Government, but simply recognised by usage, and by our adopting the style of address and title obtaining at the time of our treaties, and thus virtually fully accepting their nature and application.

4. Among the present holders of titles of inferior rank otherwise than hereditary, and whose origin cannot be traced, none have been conferred by the British Government, but have been simply from time to time bestowed as marks of approbation by the Native Princes on their own subjects, by the Kings of Delhi and others, or are titles attached to the incumbents of certain official positions in the State.

5. A statement, agreeably with the form of the only Chief whose present rank has been bestowed by the British Government, the Maha Raj Rana of Jhallawar, I have the honor to annex.

6. With reference to paragraph 4, there are no persons within

Para. 4.—"I am also directed to request, that you will furnish a list of persons within the scope of your authority, claiming or assuming titles or distinctions, which have not been conferred upon them by the British Government, and to which consequently they have no right."

the scope of my authority, who come within its provisions.

7. Titles and distinctions are numerous, but although not bestowed by the British

Government, are borne by right of ancient usage and custom and the passive acquiescence in the former powers of the Rajpoot Princes to confer such on their own subjects.

8. The only dignity which has been assumed is that of the Maha Rao Rajah of Kotah, who within the last nine years has assumed a higher title than had ever been enjoyed by him, and has had a seal engraved, in which he styles himself as Maha Rao "Raja," and this would appear to have been tacitly recognised, in so far that at that time no objection was made to the assumption; but he is only addressed from this Office as "Maha Rao."

I have, &c.,

(Signed) W. F. EDEN.

No. 24

Return of Persons in the Harrootee Agency Circle, who have received Titles or Honorary Distinctions from the British Government.

Name of person and present full titles or distinctions in full.	Authorized Style of address.	District or place of residence.	Rank or Profession, whether Independent or Tributary (Chief, Commissioner or otherwise).	Date on which the title or distinction was bestowed.	When bestowed, whether for service on succession, or otherwise.	Previous title of Raj Rana was his own, and not conferred by the British Government.	Remarks.
ON THE COVER OF THE LETTER. Bamunda Mahaja, Maha Raj Rana Sahib Mooshik Mehran Moshale, Man, Maha Raja Rana Purhee Singh Sahib Bahadur Ranae Jhad, Jawar Sahmadoo, Ala Tadi.			Tributary Chief	A. D. 1839.	On being deprived of the Hereditary Regency of the Rana State, and assigned to the Rana Territory in lieu.	Previous title of Raj Rana was his own, and not conferred by the British Government.	By our treaty with Kotah in 1817-18, the Rana of the Kotah State was confirmed to Raj Rana Zahra Singh, and declared a hereditary in his family. This led to minor late disputes with the Maha Raja of Kotah, which could only be settled by the partition of the State in 1838, and the assignment to the Rana of Zaim Singh, of that portion of the territory which had been acquired for Kotah by Zaim Singh.

CAMP MOUNT ABOO, }
The 12th August 1859.

(Signed) R. MORRIESEN,
Political Agent, Harrootee.

No. 25.

From Lieutenant General M. CUNBOX, K.C.B., Commissioner for the Government of the Territories of His Highness the Rajah of Mysore, to the Officiating Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 218, dated Bangalore, the 10th November, 1859.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Circular letters Nos. 3049 and 3841, of the 25th of May and 28th June last, respectively, calling on me to submit my opinion and suggestions on the subject of granting Titles and Honorary Distinctions on the Natives and Chiefs of India.

2. I have made every endeavour in my power, in a quiet way, to arrive at the opinions of the most intelligent and trustworthy persons in this territory, as well as of the most respectable of the travellers who pass to and fro from the contiguous districts, as to the thoughts and feelings with which the measure adverted to would probably be received, and have in every instance been led to the same conclusion, namely, that however desirable and politic its introduction might be at a future period, the people in these parts are hardly prepared for it at present; not that they do not prefer our Rule to that of any other foreigners, but that they are strongly impressed with the belief that a revolution is impending, which will sweep us away, and that any honor received at our hands would expose its possessor to persecution from a future master.

3. That such sentiments should prevail so shortly after the suppression of the late disturbance, and notwithstanding the numerous lessons taught the people, of the resistless power of England, would appear incredible to those who have no experience of the native character and credulity as it is found in these parts. But the truth is, the country has been over-run by agents of sedition; and between pretended prophecies of the approach of the tenth Avatara of Visnoo, and our own newspapers teeming with fierce invective against the past policy of Government, and strongly advocating the dismemberment of the Empire, the public mind is unsettled to such a degree, that it is not long since a great multitude assembled on the borders of this territory and Cudapah, not with any design to create disturbance, but merely to consult on the measures most proper to be taken for their security, when the expected change should arrive.

4. When this impression shall have passed away, and the people have settled down into full confidence in the stability of the British Rule, and begun to regard it as the only fountain of honor, then indeed it may be considered certain, that a race so full of vanity, and fond of ostentation as the Mahomedans of these parts, will eagerly seek for, and be highly gratified by, any titles or marks of honor which the Government may be pleased to confer. But those distinctions to be rendered valuable in their eyes, and to command general respect, should emanate either from Her Majesty the Queen, or the Viceroy of India : and even in that case, it is not certain that they would be coveted by the Hindoos, unless accompanied by substantial benefits. Of this feeling I can give an example highly illustrative of the Hindoo character, which passed under my own observation many years ago, on the occasion of the Governor General investing a Non-Commissioned Officer with the Order of Merit, and pinning the ribbon on his breast with his own hand, in front of a long line of troops under arms.

Havildar.—What increase of pay does this give me?

Lord William.—Nothing at present ; but perhaps it may come by and by, after continued good conduct.

Havildar.—With a face expressive of great disappointment and disgust. “This ribbon will not fill the bellies of my wife and children.”

5. I had many opportunities of knowing, that the Havildar's language on this occasion was generally considered to be highly sensible and proper, and that in their social intercourse, the distinction received gave him no consideration whatever in the eyes of his countrymen.

6. The preceding observations apply only to the state of society and feeling in these parts, where I conceive the fitting time has not yet arrived for introducing any general or comprehensive scheme of granting titles such as that proposed by Doctor Balfour, retaining, however, the provisions of the Resolution of the Supreme Government, dated the 30th of May 1829, and taking into consideration any application which showed that the applicant duly appreciated the mark of distinction which he solicited.

7. I beg to add that there is not a single native alive within the Mysore territories, on whom any title or honorary distinction has been conferred by the British Government, or by any preceding Government. Some seventeen Poligar families there are, living on small pensions from the Government, who are highly disaffected and burning with impatience to recover the possessions of which their ancestors were deprived by Hyder and Tippoo, and who are kept in order only by the strength of the Government, and a few other persons of no consideration, who assume the addresses of the offices held by their forefathers; but neither of these seem to be included in the letter from Government.

8. I greatly regret that I have not been able, at an earlier period, to return an answer to the letters under acknowledgment. But on a subject of this nature, it is both tedious and difficult to obtain information, that can be depended on, of the workings of the native mind.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) M. CUBBON.

No. 26.

From H. L. ANDERSON, Esquire, Secretary to the Government of Bombay, to the Secretary to the Government of India, in the Foreign Department, No. 161, dated the 5th December, 1859.

As connected with Mr. Under Secretary Simson's letter No. 3049, dated the 25th May last, and the correspondence which accompanied it, relative to the grant of Titles and Honorary Distinctions to Natives and Native Chiefs of India, I am directed to forward to you, for submission to His Excellency the President in Council, the accompanying summary of the opinions of the Political and Magisterial Authorities in this Presidency, on the several questions mooted by the Government of India, in reference to a more regulated system of such grants.

2. On a review of these proceedings, the following minutes were recorded by the Right Hon^{ble} the Governor and the Hon^{ble} H. W. Reeves :

The Right Hon'ble the Governor.

"I do not think it is desirable to lay down any very stringent rule for the grant of titles, but it seems to me that no British Indian subject should be allowed to bear any title, unless conferred or confirmed by Her Majesty or by Her Majesty's Representatives in this country. Hereditary Titles might be conferred exclusively by the Queen as the Fountain of Honor; non-hereditary distinctions, as heretofore, by the Governor General, and perhaps in the lower grades, by the Governors of Presidencies and Lieutenant Governors. In the case of hereditary Titles, whether derived from the Mogul Emperors or the British Crown, I would require, in conformity with the ancient custom of the country, that on each succession there would be a formal confirmation or recognition of the grant by the Sovereign, and a corresponding Nuzzerana on the part of the inheritor of the title.

"I think that the Orders of Merit and of British India might with advantage be granted to Civil as well as Military Officers, and even to persons not in Government employ. If a higher class of these Orders were established, which could be conferred upon Native Princes, it would, I have no doubt, be appreciated by them, and it might be sparingly bestowed upon *very distinguished* Native Officers, Civil and Military; but the great difficulty will always be to bestow these honors judiciously and sparingly; if they are lightly or too freely bestowed, they will soon lose all value."

The Hon'ble H. W. REEVES.

"I think that the Order of Merit, as well as of British India, would be usefully extended to Native Civil Officers of the State, and to Natives generally. I fully concur in opinion with the Right Hon'ble President, that these honors should be conferred sparingly and judiciously, and that they will deservedly lose their value if dispensed with an unsparing or too liberal a hand. The bestowal of honorary distinction ought not to originate in a mere desire to make the Government popular; it should be the reward of really honorable meritorious conduct. I am entirely opposed to any thing like 'showering down titles and honors' in imitation of Native Sovereigns; for such policy would be utterly inconsistent with British principles, and would soon bring our Government into contempt.

"We cannot be too cautious in originating new titles, more particularly at the present moment, which I confess I do not think has been happily chosen for the discussion of this subject; for if the Natives of India value Her Majesty's Rule, they may and will object reasonably to the introduction of honorary distinctions of a purely Native character. At the same time, I conceive that British titles and distinctions must be inapplicable to them generally, and if the position of Government and of European society has always been a matter of difficulty and delicacy with reference to the Natives of this country, it is certainly now more complicated than ever.

"Care should be taken, I am of opinion, in selecting honorary distinctions or Titles, that they bear the impress of British principle, that they may be of purely British origin at any rate. The Order of British India and the Order of Merit appear to me very appropriate under this view, and I would therefore extend them as proposed. I would devise no new titles, but merely make use of those now in use. Thus, supposing a Mamlutdar, or a Native gentleman without a title, to be admitted to either of these Orders, they would be addressed as Rao Bahadoor or Khan Saheb, &c. Some Natives in this Presidency have titles already, and it will not in all cases be appropriate to ask a Native of rank to adopt the title along with the Order. For instance, the Ghorepurays of Dutwaur, in the Southern Muratha Country, were some of them in the Poona Horse and have the title of 'Ameer-ol-O'mra.' The Ghorepuray of Moodhol is 'Raja Bahadoor;' it would be no additional distinction to call a member of these families 'Rao Bahadoor.'

"I concur in the opinion expressed by the Right Honorable President, that honorary titles should, if hereditary, proceed from Her Majesty the Queen, and non-hereditary distinctions, as heretofore, from the Governor General, or from the Governors of Presidencies; but my remarks it will be seen do not contemplate any new honors of an hereditary nature."

3. I am also on this occasion desired to submit copies of the opinions of the Judges of the Bombay Sudder Adawlut, together with a Summary of the reports particularised by the Judges, relative to the important subject under notice.

4. On these proceedings the following Minute was recorded by the Hon'ble A. Malet :

"It appears to me that the great want among our Native fellow subjects in India is a definition of relative rank between Natives and Europeans, such as will in some degree secure to the former those social courtesies to which their position may entitle them. I do not think that any titles will be much coveted unless they secure to the possessor a status in society recognized by the European community. Precedence among his own countrymen is of course desirable, but it is valueless in comparison with the higher step which the other will confer.

"The personal popularity of Europeans in India is, I believe, more dependant than we are generally willing to admit, on the due observance of social courtesies. The justice of an official immediately affects but a small class; his munificence benefits only those who need it, while all classes, including those who may be excluded from benefitting by his munificence, appreciate those feelings which ensure to them those courtesies of social life which they so highly prize.

"I do not anticipate, from the measure I advocate, that immediate effect which I hope will follow on many concurrent causes, but it will be a step in the right direction, from which there can be no regression.

"While this country was under the direct management of the Hon'ble East India Company, there might have been many objections to such a course, but now that it is under the direct Government of Her Majesty, no royal prerogative will be infringed.

"If, as seems not improbable, financial necessities require the imposition of an income tax, I think it might be arranged without difficulty, that the ranks of Gentleman and of Esquire might follow the payment of certain rates, so that enhanced taxation would carry with it the more elevated rank.

"While suggesting the bestowal of relative rank as a general measure to affect a great portion of Her Majesty's Indian subjects, I think that special titles for special reasons, such as service to the Government and to the public, should not be withheld; these will necessarily be few, and with them I think that decorations, to be

returned on the death of the owner, should be given. These titles might be so arranged as to place their possessors at the head of the general class to which they may belong.

“I do not think that any of these special titles should be hereditary, but I would not withhold hereditary titles for extraordinary causes, and in cases in which estates might be conferred by Government, or even when it might be in the power of an individual to entail sufficient fortune to prevent the honor from sinking into contempt.

“The rules for granting all honors should, I think, be promulgated by the Crown, to which also I would restrict the actual bestowal of hereditary titles, and perhaps the highest of those which are not hereditary. All the others for which decorations would be bestowed should, I am of opinion, be given by the Viceroy in Council, at the recommendation of the local Governments, under whose jurisdiction the aspirant may become entitled to the honor.”

5. The following further Minute, concurred in by the Hon'ble Mr. Reeves, was recorded by the Right Hon'ble the Governor :

• “Having already recorded my sentiments, I shall not detain the Hon'ble Board by any repetition of them, but I think it due to the Hon'ble Mr. Malet to add a few remarks upon his Minute of the 13th instant.

“There can be no doubt that any grant of titles or honors to Natives will be incomplete, if it does not convey to them, some relative precedence with Europeans. In Java, I believe that the Dutch confer Military rank upon the Native Chiefs, and I remember the Admiral Ariens who commanded the Dutch Squadron in which His Royal Highness Prince Henry of Orange was serving as a Lieutenant, and which came to Madras when I was there, asking me what rank the Nawab of the Carnatic held? In the Dutch colonies, I was informed he would probably have held the rank of Colonel or Lieutenant Colonel. I believe that this is also the Russian system, and that the descendants of the Kings of Georgia, and the Khans of the Crimea, together with many lesser Chiefs who still enjoy some shadow of power, are honored with Commissions in the Imperial Army.

“I do not know whether this system could be introduced here, but perhaps the Princes and Chiefs might have a scale of precedence

allotted to them ; the highest ranking with Major Generals and Civilians of 30 years' standing ; while it would certainly be convenient to assign some relative rank to our Native Judges and Magistrates who are now liable to be treated with indignity by young European Officers who do not understand either the position of these Native officials or their own.

“ I cannot concur with my Hon'ble colleague in thinking that it would be proper to connect the grant of rank and honors with the payment of a certain amount of Income Tax. In the first place, I hope that there will be no income tax, or other attempt at direct taxation, which I have no doubt will be the most unpopular mode of recruiting our finances which we can possibly adopt. In the next, I object to this proposal because it would connect in the Native mind the grant of honors and rank, which should proceed from the free grace of the Crown, with the payment of a hateful impost ; and thirdly, because those who would thus purchase precedence, would be almost exclusively wealthy banians and shroffs, who are already placed under our rule in a much higher position than their class ever held under any Native Government, and whose further elevation would be very galling to the landed aristocracy, which they are already gradually but sufficiently rapidly supplanting.”

6. I am desired to add, with reference to Mr. Secretary Beadon's letter No. 3841, dated the 26th June last, that returns in accordance with the instructions of His Excellency the Governor General of India in Council, showing the Titles conferred on Native Chiefs and others by the British Government, and of those claimed or assumed within the scope of the authority of this Government, are under preparation, and will be submitted as soon as completed.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) H. L. ANDERSON.

No. 27.

SUMMARY.

The Collector and Magistrate of Dharwar.—The British Government, in Mr. Ogilvy's opinion, is placed at a disadvantage, with respect to the grant of titles, compared with Native Governments, as it cannot hold out to the ambition of its native subjects the higher offices of the State, nor can it afford to dissipate its resources by the bestowal of large territorial and other assignments. He is, however, of opinion that a further judicious distribution of Honors, than those already granted, to deserving persons of all classes, would doubtless be gratifying to them, and would promote their loyalty.

It is very desirable, he considers, that the love of distinction and inordinate pride of the native mind, as exemplified by caste, exclusiveness in matters of food and dress, in cruel rites and customs, &c., should be diverted from what is evil to that which is good and worthy of imitation.

In paragraph 5 of his report, Mr. Ogilvy describes the course adopted by the late Mahratta Government, which does not appear to have granted mere Honorary Distinctions, but to have conferred on its principal officers suitable titles and large assignments of land; advancement to office, he shows, was oftener the result of personal favor and intrigue than of merit, and the hereditary system of employment fostered by native rule, while it perpetuated mediocrity and inefficiency, secured the attachment of many families to the existing Government.

As a contrast, Mr. Ogilvy presents the system pursued by the British Government, which aims at securing efficiency by promoting merit, and in uniting universal obedience to law, by bestowing a large share of personal liberty. He then points out the privileges conferred on the Feudatory Chiefs of the country, who adhered to the British cause, and also the powers conferred by Act XIII. of 1842, for vesting landholders worthy of distinction with Police and Civil powers, and alludes to the titles conferred on Judicial and Revenue Officers, and to the publication, in the *Government Gazette*, of the names of contributors to works of public utility.

It does not appear to him to be expedient that the British Government should borrow titles used by the Native Governments, which made a distinction between Hindoos, Mahomedans, and others, and thus perpetuate the memory of former dynasties; but rather adopt titles of its own,

common to all creeds and classes. This object, he thinks, might perhaps best be secured by the adoption of English appellations with some modification.

Hereditary titles, he considers, should be bestowed on Princes and great landholders, whose possessions can permanently support their dignity. They should emanate directly from the Crown, and should not be conferred unless for special reasons, as for services rendered to the State, or to the cause of humanity, and might be rendered more acceptable by autograph letters from the Sovereign.

The accompaniment of Honorary Distinctions would, in his opinion, enhance the value of grants of lands and pensions to Chiefs and others, who adhered to the British cause during the late rebellion.

If it were designed to mark the satisfaction of the Sovereign towards a Prince for having suppressed Sutte or Female Infanticide, the title of "Highness," "Grace," or "Excellency," might, in his opinion, be conferred, accompanied by a star or collar, a ribbon or banner, for display on State occasions; but the grant of special Honors marking the extinction of former barbarisms, would probably be more acceptable if conferred without indicating the cause.

As the Honors provided for the Native Army have been placed on a satisfactory footing, he proceeds to consider what Civil Honors are required.

The different classes of title to be conferred, he states, might be divided into three grades, to which special precedence might be attached. For services rendered to the State, the titles conferred might be such as "distinguished," "very distinguished," and "most distinguished," and as public services, whether civil or military, may be esteemed equally deserving of honor, precedence might be given according to the dates of titles.

In addition to distinctions granted for Civil and Military services, Mr. Ogilvy proposes the grant of similar Honors for great learning and public spirit, and also for acts of munificence. The latter, in his opinion, should not rank so high as others, as wealth has its own advantages, and rewards for acts of charity detract from their intrinsic merits. But as the natives of this country are prone to incur lavish expenditure in the hope of acquiring posthumous fame, titles given in reward for such acts would be most appropriate, he thinks, and most valued, if made hereditary.

Native subjects esteemed worthy of the highest Honors might, in his opinion, be made Honorary Privy Counsellors for India, with some suitable decoration.

As before stated, Mr. Ogilvy considers that all hereditary Honors and Titles of the highest grades should emanate directly from the Crown; titles of less dignity, he says, might be conferred by the Governor General, and the lowest titles might be given by the Local Governments, on the recommendation of Heads of Departments.

As Honors granted without limitations would cease to be Distinctions, he suggests that the number of Honors for each grade should be fixed for a certain period, and then increased, if found necessary.

English forms of address appear to him to be most appropriate for English Honors; but these and other matters connected with the grant of titles might be determined by a Committee of Europeans and natives.

The Collector and Magistrate of Belgaum.—The several points proposed for consideration by the Government of India are noticed consecutively by Mr. Seton Karr. After enumerating the titles best known to the Natives of this Presidency, he proceeds to consider the propriety of adopting native in preference to English appellations of Honor. It may be questionable, he says, whether it would be good policy to select titles calculated to keep alive the recollection of the pomp of bygone dynasties; but as neither the events of the past, nor their results can be obliterated from the page of history, he doubts whether any new-fashioned distinctions would be so generally acceptable as the old and well-known titles, with their supplemental appellations, as “nourisher of the poor,” &c., which have been transmitted from mouth to mouth, and from generation to generation.

Should it, however, seem objectionable to borrow the forms of preceding times, he considers that there would be no difficulty in devising new appellations, of which he furnishes examples. Titles derived from the Sanskrit would, in his opinion, be best adapted to the intelligence of the people of this Presidency.

The rank and precedence to accompany titles might be easily arranged, he says, by dividing the recipients into classes of Sirdars, the first class being composed of Princes and Chiefs, exercising sovereign rights, and “all other classes being open to merit of every kind.”

Precedence would follow in the order of the different classes, but exemption from the jurisdiction of ordinary Courts should, on no account, be recognized in future creations.

The forms of address which, in his opinion, should be observed, are the titles themselves, with the addition in every case of Rao Bahadur; and as the length of titles is intimately associated in the native mind with ideas

of dignity, he suggests that the Sirdars of each class should be entitled to take, in addition to their own, the appellations of every class below them.

High social position, great wealth, and eminent Civil and Military services should, he thinks, form grounds of admission into the proposed institution, and all titles should emanate from Her Majesty's Viceroy in India, on the recommendation of the Local Governments. Hereditary titles should only be conferred on Princes and great landed proprietors, a handsome nuzzeranah being payable on each renewal or grant.

In conclusion, Mr. Seton Karr observes that the Distinctions formerly most prized, as elephants, mace-bearers, aptageerces, &c. are now comparatively little valued, as there is no restriction on their use, and it is remarkable, he adds, that the Southern Mahratta Jagheerdars have no titles.

The Collector and Magistrate of Sholapoor.—In the opinion of Mr. Goldfinch, titles should be both hereditary and personal, just as in England there are the Peerage and Orders of Knighthood. In the case of hereditary titles, the recipients should be obliged to entail property sufficient to support the dignity of the titles conferred; and, as a rule, he presumes, hereditary rank will be assigned to men of large fortune, who will be in a position to make the necessary provision. In instances in which the same rank and title are bestowed as a reward for service, the Distinction would be personal, and should, he considers, be accompanied by a life grant, equal to the minimum amount fixed for entailment on the holder of the hereditary title.

As regards the personal titles analogous to the English Orders of Knighthood, they will carry with them, he says, no emoluments, but should be accompanied by some decoration to be worn on occasions of ceremony, and these, as well as hereditary titles, should entitle the holder to assume a certain dress for himself or servants, so that his rank might be recognized in places of public resort.

The Collector and Magistrate of Poona.—Mr. G. Inverarity is of opinion that the proposed institution should be confined exclusively to natives of India, and otherwise concurs generally in the views expressed by the Government Agent of Chepank.

The Collector and Magistrate of Ahmednuggur.—Mr. Fraser Tytler enumerates the chief official titles in use in the Ahmednuggur Collectorate. He is of opinion that no change is necessary in existing titles. In cases of rare merit, the usual higher titles should be granted, as Shumsheer Bahadoor, Aliza Bahadoor, Rajah Bahadoor, &c. Where the claims are of a high order, decorations and substantial advantages should, he thinks, be added. Titles

should be hereditary where the merits of the individual warrant the concession. Each case, in his opinion, should be decided on its own merits, as an unvarying rule would not work well. Three orders, at least, seem to him necessary alike for Civil and Military, to meet the many cases that must arise, all differing in details.

The Collector and Magistrate of Khandeish.—Mr. Mansfield states that the question relative to the grant of Titles and Honorary Distinctions is so fully disposed of by the Government of India, that he has little further to add than his testimony to their great appreciation by Natives of India, and his opinion that their more frequent bestowal, with and without substantial advantages, would be attended with the very best effect.

The Political Superintendent of Sawunt Warree.—Captain Schneider premises by remarking on the important influence which the measure under contemplation will exercise, by counteracting the opinion rather prevalent in the country, that the British Government is desirous of extinguishing the native nobility, and that not only would it induce a better feeling among the Sirdars towards the Government, but would stimulate the wealthier classes, who have no standing beyond what their riches afford, to the performance of acts which might lead to real rank and distinction.

Captain Schneider is of opinion that titles should only be conferred by the head of the Supreme Government for the time, but that if those intended for the highest classes were conferred by Her Majesty the Queen, their value would be greatly enhanced.

He is also of opinion, that titles should be granted with certain limitations ; as for instance, one title would carry with it the right of succession in perpetuity through the direct male descendants of the original grantee ; another would be for two generations ; a third for one ; and a fourth for the lifetime of the party on whom the title was conferred.

The Collector and Magistrate of Rutnagherry.—Mr. Turquand considers the questions proposed by the Government of India, *first*, with reference to the Native Army. Viewing the fidelity and devotion which, with some partial exceptions, marked the conduct of the Bombay Native Army during the crisis of 1857-58—an army which contains for instance in the Southern Mahratta and Poona Horse, the clansmen, relations, and dependants of the Satara, Kolapoor and other Rajahs—viewing also the pre-eminently meritorious services of certain Corps, particularly the 25th Bombay Native Infantry, he deeply feels that justice and good policy alike dictate that, by more widely recognizing and rewarding such services, the attachment of the Military classes

generally would be more fully secured to our rule. To this end he suggests the creation of a Military Order, with decorations superior to the existing two classes of the *too exclusive* Order of British India.

Further, reflection on the past and present condition of the Native Army only tends to strengthen the impression at which he has arrived.

The new title to Native Commissioned Officers of both Regular and Irregular Infantry and Cavalry, should, he conceives, be in Persian, as these classes generally know little of English; and titles in the mellifluous high-sounding Persian would be more grateful to their ears.

In bestowing Honorary Distinctions and rewards as accompaniments to Military Titles, he thinks that the practice of former Sovereigns in granting caparisoned horses, umbrellas, torch-bearers, &c. &c., should not wholly be revived, and especially ought grants which would permanently entail expense on the grantee or the Government to be avoided; but substantial rewards might, he says, be given in the shape of pensions, small grants of land, gold or silver mounted swords, handsomely finished fire-arms, caparisoned horses, &c.

With respect to the Native Princes and Chiefs who have loyally or actively assisted the British Government during the crisis of 1857-58, it appears to him both just and politically expedient that they should be rewarded by titles, territorial grants, or reduction of tribute, according as circumstances suggest.

• For this high class, in Mr. Turquand's opinion, a distinct order, comprising grades, should be instituted. Under the Mogul Empire, he observes, the Native Princes and Chieftains were, without detriment to their local rank or authority, enrolled amongst the highest nobility of the State. Faithful and zealous service was rewarded by appointments as Viceroys of provinces, or by investiture with the insignia of the fish (Mahi Muratī*), the grant of a Nalki Palki, or fans of peafowl's feathers (Morchul†); titles were also accompanied by honorary dresses (Kheluts), elephants, richly caparisoned horses, &c., but for these, he says, might be better substituted valuable medals, handsome carriages and horses, with gorgeous trappings, watches set with jewels, &c. &c.

* For a description of the Mahi Muratī, Mr. Turquand refers, in a note, to the Asiatic Journal, Vol. 27, new series, for September and December, 1838, and the Vol. for May and August, 1840, and adds, "old men now living in Poona speak with enthusiasm of the investiture of the Peshwa Sawai Madhbor with the Mahi Muratī and Nalki, conveyed by Scindia from the Emperor of Delhi."

† In another note, Mr. Turquand states on the authority of the Hon'ble Mr. Elphinstone, that a long war between Kolapoor and Sawunt Warree was occasioned by the Emperor of Delhi granting to the Sawunt Warree Chief the right to use a Morchul.

Titles to Native Princes and Chiefs, for reasons already given, should be in Persian, and with this view he suggests the appointment of a Committee of Persian scholars, European and Native, for the selection of the most appropriate titles conferred by Native Sovereigns, or for devising new appropriate titles.

He next considers the case of the merchants, bankers, and others, who have applied their wealth to the advancement of civilization and to the establishment of works of public utility. For this important and honorable class, a separate order, composed of at least three grades, should, he thinks, be instituted, to be designated the order of philanthropy or general benevolence, the highest class being exclusively restricted to those whose works had displayed philanthropy of the most catholic character.

As regards the accompaniments to titles conferred on this order, the Government can hardly do better he thinks than follow the practice of the Native Governments, which usually granted sowcars, merchants, and other native gentlemen of wealth and respectability, the privilege of having Jassoods and silver sticks to go before their palkees and carriages. This privilege of having Jassoods with silver sticks, says Mr. Turquand, was conferred on some wealthy and respectable native gentlemen of Surat, by Sir John Malcolm, when he visited Surat, and when he also conferred on the Kotwal of that place, Ardeshir Dhunjeeshah Khan, the Title of Bahadoor, accompanied by a gold medal and the present of a Palkee and Sword.

To correspond with the proposed three classes of the Military Order, there should be, he thinks, three classes of a Civil Order to be conferred on the highest Native Political, Judicial, and Revenue Officers, for pre-eminent service in the civil administration, and the titles to be conferred for such service need not necessarily be the same or always different from those already noticed. Native Officers in the Police of the Regulation Districts should not, in his opinion, be permitted to claim Military titles and accompaniments so long as the Police is civil; but Native Officers of a strictly Military Police might be granted Military titles and accompaniments for services of a strictly military character.

As to the conditions under which titles should be granted, Mr. Turquand is of opinion that those granted to Native Princes and Chiefs should be hereditary. The force of circumstances will, he apprehends, prevent titles to the Native Army being hereditary. Titles in the proposed order of philanthropy, unless of an hereditary nature, should ordinarily not be so, and restricted, when hereditary, to the first class in the order, or to grants made hereditary for very special reasons in the patent.

In any case in which native candidates for Titles from the British Government may be deserving of English titles and dignities, and would prefer them to Asiatic titles, in consequence of a predilection for English manners, &c. English titles and dignities, he thinks, might be conferred. He cites the case of the late Venerable Sir Jamsetjee Jejeebhoy as one in point.

Mr. Turquand then proceeds to consider the propriety of recognizing titles granted by the Pageant Emperor of Delhi. On the one hand, he says, the Emperor may be considered a mere titular Sovereign from the time he was pensioned by Lord Lake. On the other hand, the British Government considered it in some degree expedient to govern in his name; while the Marquis of Hastings, in the early part of his administration, recognized titles conferred by the Emperor, and even caused the Emperor to confer them. He is therefore of opinion that titles conferred by the Emperors of Delhi should be respected and confirmed by the British Government in all cases where there might not be special valid objections to succession thereto. It also appears to him that every title in India derived from the Emperors should, in analogy to the practice of every sovereign power in India, be formally confirmed on the part of Her Majesty the Queen, at each succession, on receipt of Nuzzarana.

Finally, he considers by whom titles should be granted, and remarks in passing on the disadvantages under which a foreign Government labors in making such grants. All titles conferred on Native Princes and Chiefs should, in his opinion, be conferred by Her Majesty the Queen, as the source of honor. If grantees do not go to England for investiture by Her Majesty in *propria personâ*, the investiture, he says, should be made on the part of Her Majesty by the Viceroy of India, or by the Viceroy through the Governors of Presidencies. This would tend to make the Native Princes regard themselves as the Vassals of the Queen, while Her Majesty would appear more as in the place of the Emperor of Delhi, and the titles thus become more highly prized.* The same mode of investiture should be adopted for every hereditary title conferred; all other titles might be conferred by the Viceroy through the Governors of Presidencies, who should recommend, but not confer them.

Agent for the Right Hon'ble the Governor at Surat.—Mr. Hebbert is of opinion that some change should be made in the titles now given, or others added to them, and thinks the order to be established should be of

* Mr. Turquand, referring to Thornton's British India, Vol. I., page 93 94 writes—

“The Nizam, after he had in other respects assumed independence, referred grants of high Titles for the confirmation of the Emperor of Delhi.”

a character to mark the existing Raj. • He questions the policy of binding down the recollections of the people to the past, and in all our titles recalling the days of their greater independence under Rulers of their own. On this ground the “Order of British India” commends itself to him, but he thinks that some of the titles and distinctions attached to it should have a greater affinity to those of Britain.

He is also of opinion that titles should be accompanied by a decoration of some sort, like those of the Order of the Bath in England, or the Legion of Honor in France, and precedence should be attached to them. They should carry no pecuniary emolument with them, but be sought as “honorable,” no room being given for the intrusion of a lower motive; but this need not prevent their being accompanied by grants of land or money, as the particular occasion may demand.

It appears to him that titles should be bestowed in some marked public manner, and not by simple announcement in the *Government Gazette*. In no case should they be hereditary, or be granted for “social position,” or should official rank be attached to them, as is now the case. But he sees no impropriety in “prolonged good conduct” or “special services” being recognized and rewarded in the same manner as other acts eliciting the approbation of Government.

He considers that there should be only one Order, consisting of three or four classes, divided into two branches, Civil and Military, the numbers of each being intimated, as it may be taken for granted that the Government will be careful its decorations do not become cheap.

As the representative of Her Majesty, all titles in his opinion should emanate from the Viceroy and Governor General.

• He is also of opinion that titles should be held out as an object of honorable ambition to every individual in the service of Government, and suggests, in conclusion, the propriety of enacting a law simultaneously with the institution of the new Order, making it penal for any one to use titles and decorations to which he has no claim.

The Acting Political in the Mahee Kanta.—Captain Raikes is of opinion that Honorary Distinctions should be conferred for great services and conspicuous merit of every kind, as is the case in Europe. It appears to him, however, in the present transition state of society in India, that an honorary Order to be appreciated must be comprehensive. On the one hand, it should be adapted to classes like those in the Presidency towns, making rapid advances towards civilization, and on the other, to those still in a primitive state. While

the former would appreciate the honor of being enrolled in an honorable Order or institution, the latter, he thinks, might not understand or know how to value it in the absence of high sounding appellations and material advantages.

Still, looking to the gradual growth of a more elevated sentiment, as education becomes diffused throughout the land, he believes that natives of India, distinguished in their age for gallant deeds, great talents, or other extraordinary merits, would prefer being nominated to an honorary Order, with or without a title, in the ranks of which they would be associated with men, both European and Native, who had shed a lustre over India by their gallantry, talents, wisdom, or devotion. They would prefer nomination to such an Order, he thinks, than be honored with titles such as Maharajah, &c., which would make the Order to which they belonged exclusive, or in other words, the Order would be composed of natives of India exclusively, and the inference might be deduced, that either Europeans are not deemed worthy of the Order or the Order of them.

Nothing less than a comprehensive honorary Order or institution which might take its rank amongst other national honorary Orders and institutions would, it seems to him, meet the requirements and progress of the Eastern Empire; and while the nomination to the Order should be a mark of Royal favor in acknowledgment of eminent civil and military services, or conspicuous merit, it should also be open to all classes of Her Majesty's subjects, without reference to religion, caste, or color.

He advocates the absorption of the present Order of Merit as being not only exclusively military, but confined to the Native Army of India, which in future must occupy a position somewhat different from that of times gone by.

The decoration of the proposed new Order, in his opinion, might be selected so as to suit all classes, as a collar or star, and a collar and star for the higher grade would probably be the most suitable insignia. He also thinks that honors should be personal, and carry with them no substantial advantages, while, if the Order were divided into two classes, Civil and Military, it might be made to meet all the requirements for which it was instituted.

All honors, he adds, should be granted in the name of Her Majesty, at the recommendation of the Supreme and Local Governments.

The Political Agent in the Rewa Kanta.—Major Wallace is of opinion that a distinction should be drawn between civil and military services to the State in the honorary rewards granted for them.

He is also of opinion that no title should be hereditary, unless supported by an entailed estate.

That every hereditary title should be an English one, and granted solely by the Crown.

That the subordinate Governments should have the power (under certain rules applicable to the whole empire) of granting non-hereditary titles.

That public servants, after long and faithful service, should, on retirement, receive Honorary Distinctions and Titles, if recommended for the same.

Such distinctions, he says, would be highly prized, even if no pecuniary advantage accompanied them.

He is also of opinion that a substantial advantage annexed to such distinction or title should be the exception rather than the rule; that European functionaries holding high office should be instructed to be careful in according to the recipients of such honors, due precedence and respect; and that lists should be made out by all such officers, of all persons, within their cognizance, possessing or claiming Titles, in order that a register of such persons should be compiled and printed for general information.

Finally, he is of opinion that decorations as well as Titles and Honorary Distinctions should be granted, and that the customs of Natives will admit of a very wide range in the selection of such rewards.

The Political Superintendent of Pahlunpoor.—It appears to Colonel Keily, that titles should be more numerous and distinctive, as suggested by Dr. Balfour, so as to enable men of lower rank than Chiefs to participate in them, such as palanquins, chowrees, sun-shades, &c.

Cases in which substantial advantages should accompany titles would, he considers, be exceptional.

When Honorary Distinctions are required to be conferred on a Chief already a Nawab, the highest rank recognized by the Resolution of the Supreme Government of 1829, appropriate epithets in his opinion might be affixed to the Chiefs and title, an increase made in the number of guns and trays, and his rank enhanced in interviews by the number of steps taken by the Secretary to meet him.

Only in the case of Chiefs should honors be considered hereditary; special services, he conceives, should be considered as giving the first claim for distinctive honors. Social position and long good character, as a general rule, might be considered secondary, but each case would have to be judged on its own merits.

All high honors, he adds, should be conferred by the Queen, and lower titular dignities by the Local Governments.

The Magistrate of Kaira.—Presuming that the Order of British India and the Order of Merit are purely military distinctions, Mr. Gray sees no reason why civil divisions of those Orders should not be instituted analogous to those of the Bath. The estimation in which the ordinary titles of Rao Bahadoor and Khan Bahadoor are generally held, induces him to think that the proposed new Orders would be highly prized by Native Chiefs, public officers, and private individuals, especially when conferred as a special honor, and not merely as the concomitant of official rank; and that a still higher value would be set upon titles which might be constituted hereditary.

He also considers that the execution of works of public utility should not constitute a claim to Titles and Honorary Distinctions, as the more such honors are valued the nearer such a system would approach to a bestowal of them for mere pecuniary consideration upon all those most able and willing to purchase.

The Political Superintendent of Kolhapoor.—Mr. Havelock would recommend that a Civil Order of British India be instituted, the members of which should receive the titles of "Sirdar Bahadoor" and "Bahadoor;" that the two grades should have each a specific decoration; and that the Order should be bestowed for extraordinary services, and prolonged good conduct, and generally for such meritorious actions as the Government may deem worthy of reward.

The possibility of obtaining a distinction of this kind, however remote, would in his opinion tend to keep high Native functionaries honest, as much as the terrors held out by the law, and he would recommend, on account of persons of this class, that honorary distinctions be accompanied by a small additional income.

He would also recommend the bestowal of titles recognized by previous usage in different parts of India; but it would be difficult, he thinks, to arrange the local titles and epithets so as to find equivalents in a scale for general application. He suggests also, as a point for consideration, the extent to which it would be judicious to amalgamate portions of the old with the new nobility of India.

Mr. Havelock would in no case make the titles proposed for the Civil Order hereditary, though the Government should reserve to itself the right of permitting succession to certain titles. Special titles granted to hereditary

Sovereigns should, in accordance with the usage of Hindoostan, be made hereditary, as well as those granted to Chief of all grades holding hereditary estates.

While he is decidedly of opinion that titles should not be bestowed upon European British subjects otherwise than by the Crown directly, he would hail it as a happy omen for the future of British India if an Order were instituted, emanating from the Crown, for which all classes of Her Majesty's subjects, whether European or Asiatic, would be eligible, for meritorious service in India. Such a distinction would, in his opinion, prove a very effectual means towards removing the prejudices of race by affording an emphatic assurance that with our Sovereign and Her Government in India, true merit, whether in European or Asiatic, is equally prized.

The Political Resident at Aden.—Brigadier Coghlan remarks, that it never has been the custom in Arabia to grant Titles and Honorary Distinctions, those which are in use in that country being derived either by descent, by the possession of feudal power, or by office.

He does not believe that any titles which could be conferred by the British Government would be appreciated by Arabs.

He concurs with Dr. Balfour in thinking that it would be a measure of sound policy to recognize and reward merit more widely among all classes of Her Majesty's subjects in India, both European and Native.

He also considers with that officer, that the exclusive character of the Orders of British India and of Merit cannot fail to impress Natives with the idea either that Europeans are not worthy of those Orders, or that they are not considered worthy of acceptance by Englishmen. A Native of India, observes Brigadier Coghlan, no matter what his rank or profession, would esteem a decoration far more highly if he saw the most exalted European Officers of the State wearing, with a legitimate pride, the same Order which adorned his own breast.

But whatever may be the mark of Distinction, he adds, whether a title or decoration, or both, its popular value will be regulated by the degree of judgment with which it is bestowed; if the recipients be fairly and judiciously selected, it will confer honor upon them, and through them it may become an engine of strength to the State; but if lightly or unworthily conferred for insignificant or for domestic service, it will speedily sink into merited contempt.

(True copy)

c
(Signed) H. L. ANDERSON.

No. 28.

Minute recorded by W. E. FREERE, Esquire, Puisne Judge, dated the 14th October 1859

GOVERNMENT required to be furnished with the opinions of the Zillah Judges, and therefore their letters should be sent to Government, though some of them are not exactly to the point referred. The attention of Government ought, however, to be called to Messrs. Loughnan, Erskine and Forbes' letters, which contain much that is valuable.

2. As regards our own opinions which Government desire to have, I would observe that the opportunity has, in my opinion, been lost, of placing Titles and Honorary Distinctions to Natives on a clear and intelligible footing. The subject is one that has long occupied my thoughts, and I brought it forward, if I recollect right, in an annual report when Assistant Collector at Poona, some twenty years ago.

3. I was then much struck with the power and influence in the country still held by the Deshmooks, and seeing that the policy of our Government was to depress and not to exalt these hereditary landlords, I brought to notice the mistake I thought we were making, and how desirable it appeared to me to uphold and raise this allodial aristocracy, with whose assistance I found I could do everything I desired, when the Mamlutdar and Government servants failed. It would have been difficult even then to have restored and exalted these people, but now I fear it would be almost impossible: a generation has passed, and I fear that the stipendiary servants of Government now, so far as they are able, fill the place of the hereditary District Officers. We therefore have no base for operations, and Honors and Distinctions will for years, I may say for generations to come, be excrescences raised by foreign rulers. Yet, with all this, I am not opposed to a system of Titles and Honorary Distinctions, but we shall find difficulties now to contend with that might some years ago have been easily overcome.

4. Honors and offices are in their nature convertible and synonymous, and all honors ought originally to have duties or offices annexed to them, and it was these duties, the Government of a country, that gave dignity originally to our Earls, and attending the King in his wars, that gave honor to the Knights; the duties however have now passed away, but the honors survive in perhaps their full pristine glory. Without the duties annexed to them, the honors would soon have faded, and thence the proper footing upon which to base any honors we now give should be to annex duties

to them, not to make them mere empty names : thus, if honors are given for service performed, some service should still be required, it might only be to take part in a pageant, but even that should be exacted as making the status of the honored man.

5. On the other hand, unless penalties are attached to the usurpation of these honors or titles by others, the title and honor will soon become valueless. The visitations of the Earl Marshall or the Provincial Kings were attended with much good in England in preserving honors even of being an "Esquire," or "Gentleman," pure ; and much more will such be required in this country where, as we see every native affects the title of Mr. and Esquire, and ignores that of Rao Sahib or Row Bahadoor, even if he has a right to it.

6. The footing, then, upon which I would place the grant of Honors and Distinctions is, that duties or offices should in all cases be annexed to those honors ; that they should be most strictly guarded, and the usurpation of either the title, insignia, or office, should receive degrading punishment ; and that when those who hold honors or distinctions are tried by a Session Court, the Jury (supposing the Draft Bill for Criminal Procedure should pass) must be composed of persons of their own order, but they should have no other exemption from the ordinary procedure of Law.

7. I think that titles should be given for social position, and in those cases the receiver should be bound to entail a landed estate on the title, and then, as well as whenever for distinguished actions land as well as honor is bestowed, the title should be hereditary, but only so long as the property remains free and unencumbered to the heirs. On a titled family falling into poverty, the same authority as has power to punish the improper use of titles, should have power to declare the title extinct, and punish the continued use of it as an usurpation.

8. On this footing, Titles and Honorary Distinctions might be conferred upon all ranks of Natives, and for every species of service as well as for social position ; and if the rules against the usurpation of the titles be strictly enforced, we may hope to raise an aristocracy (I wish we could revive it) on this side of India.

9. The system will however have much to contend with. In Bombay, and the large towns and cities, from whatever cause it may have arisen, a radical and levelling feeling has sprung up, which makes people neglect the common courtesies and respect due to those in superior rank or situation. We never see a Native in Bombay, however coarse and dirty his shoes may

be, take them off in the presence of the Governor even. The children who come to receive prizes at school examinations, take them from the Governor's hand with their shoes on, and not one in ten making a reverence; and at a large party at Parell last year, the only Natives I saw without shoes were the sons of the Nawab of Savanoor, then on a visit in Bombay, descendants of the house of Timour, and an independant Chief in his own State. They adhered to the old form of respect, which was ignored by all the far less honorable men in Bombay.

10. The other three points submitted to the consideration of Government

To define precisely the Titles which shall be given,

The rank and precedence which shall accompany those Titles, and

The forms of address which shall be observed,

are matters of detail, on which the Court cannot be expected to give any opinion. Some information is contained in Mr. Loughnan's letter, which shows, that on this side of India there was no classification of titles until our Government introduced them in 1829. I do not think those titles should be continued, they have not "commended" themselves to the Natives; the character of the new titles should be such that all the Natives might apprehend their meaning, but still have something in them to mark that they were derived from an European source, but nothing will save any titles or distinctions from neglect and scorn, unless the European community unanimously agree to acknowledge and cordially to respect them, as we receive and respect honors among ourselves.

(Signed) W. E. FRERE.

Minute recorded by W. H. HARRISON, Esquire, Puisne Judge dated the 22nd October 1859.

I CONCUR that these letters should be laid before Government, and that we should direct attention to the observations of Mr. Loughnan, Mr. Erskine, and Mr. Forbes, on the subject referred for opinion and report.

2. In my opinion, it is highly expedient that the practice of conferring Honorary Distinctions on the Natives of India, should be continued and extended.

3. The present classes of honorary titles might remain, and additional ranks should be founded, to be conferred by the Viceroy and Governor General, and by the Sovereign.

4. These highest distinctions should be granted for such distinguished services, and to such distinguished position as call forth the highest marks of imperial favor in Europe, and they should represent a true Baronetage and Peerage, with Oriental Titles, in correspondence with the English. The rank conferred by each should be defined in connection with English, as well as Indian precedence, and proper insignia to be worn on all State occasions should be assigned.

5. Precedents already exist of a Baronet and a Military Knight Commander of the Bath erected by the Crown amongst the Natives of India,—the first for high social position, and the latter for Military service as an ally of the British Government. The Crown will now be looked to as the source of the highest honors and distinctions by the Indian subjects of the British Empire, and those emanating from other authority will be esteemed in proportion only.

6. These highest distinctions should, I think, whenever it is necessary, be accompanied by the grant of means for the support of the dignity. But I should not recommend that the titles be made hereditary.

7. The honorary distinctions at present existing should be granted by the local Governments, high personal merit being reckoned as the only qualification, and not the attainment of any particular rank or post in the public service, save when such post is itself distinguished by any title, when, as a matter of course, it would devolve on the holder. Distinguishing badges should appertain to all honorary distinctions, and these should be of a distinctive character.

(Signed) W. H. HARRISON.

Minute recorded by R. KEAYS, Esquire, Puisne Judge, dated 28th October, 1859.

THE replies we have received from the Zillah Judges on the subject of this reference, should be laid before Government, and their attention particularly directed to the replies of Messrs. Loughnan, Erskine, and Forbes, as containing much useful information, and many valuable suggestions.

2. The general opinion as to the expediency of the proposed measure seems to be that it is likely to be conducive of great advantage, and in this I concur. I think, however, that all it will be necessary to do at present in this matter, is to create one extra title of a superior rank to those already given by us. This should be divided into two grades; these might be conferred on those who pre-eminently distinguish themselves by services to the State, high social position, or remarkable liberality, and for the benefit of the community.

These should be conferred, on the recommendation of the local Government, by the Viceroy. They should be accompanied by badges or honorary decorations, or privileges, and the unauthorized assumption of any of them carefully protected by a legislative enactment, rendering such assumption penal.

3. In very particular cases, where circumstances require it, and where the wealth of the grantee is sufficient to admit of a proper provision being made to secure a becoming income being set aside or secured by entail, or other means for the support of the title, or in such other cases in which Government might deem fit to make a grant-in-aid for this purpose, this,* the highest Title might be made hereditary, but it should be granted with a sparing hand, and should be the exception, and not the rule.

4. With reference to the Official Titles of Rao Bahadoor, Rao Sahib, and Azam, I would so far enhance the value of them in cases where it was desired to confer a reward for distinguished or meritorious services in particular instances, by granting permission to wear decorations and insignia of office.

5. I do not consider that any further change is at present necessary.

(Signed) R. KEAYS.

SUMMARY.

Acting Session Judge of Khandeish.—Mr. A. K. Forbes is entirely of opinion that Honorary Distinctions are much desired by the Natives of India, and that it would be a highly politic step to arrange their distribution on a sound and regular plan. The British Government, he remarks, has hitherto failed in inducing the Natives of this country to regard themselves as the fellow subjects of Europeans, belonging to one Empire, probably because the feeling has not been adequately reciprocated. Another European power, he says, has been more successful in the matter. The Georgians and Circassians, without losing their national characteristics, have been taught to feel that they are the citizens of the great Russian Empire, and one at least of the means adopted for the purpose of bringing about that desirable result, has been a distribution of Imperial Honors.

2. All Honorary Distinctions should, Mr. Forbes considers, be given in the name of Her Majesty. The Viceroy might confer the title, as the representative of the Queen, and the Governors of Presidencies recommend persons deserving of honors. Anything approaching to an application for honors should be wholly discouraged, as he should fear that a system for the bestowal

of honors on Natives might be much degraded if precautions were not taken that the distinction be conferred spontaneously. In offering this remark, he does not refer to an application to succeed to an hereditary title, which would be quite unobjectionable.

3. The highest titles, and especially those reserved for Princes and Chiefs of feudatory States should, in Mr. Forbes's opinion, bear Her Majesty's sign manual. The sanctity of these should be strictly guarded, and imitations of them carefully suppressed. Many of the titles which have been conferred on Hindoos by Mahomedan Governors will, he thinks, be violations of this rule.

4. It will also be necessary, he thinks, to affix a distinct precedence to each title, and to have a graduated scale of them. Thus, if the Titles of Rajah or Nawab are still to be used, it should be declared that they are of equal dignity, and that the parties rank according to the date of creation. Such Titles as Khan Bahadoor and Rao Bahadoor should follow these as the next inferior grade; and if a distinction of hereditary and personal rank is to be made, which in practice would probably be inevitable, these should be the titles which are to be hereditary.

5. It might be desirable to revive the Titles of Shah, Shet, &c., as applied to the mercantile classes, and other similar titles; but Mr. Forbes is rather inclined to suggest that a civil order or orders should be created and conferred as the reward of official and literary distinction, and of acts of public spirit and liberality.

6. A revision of the titles now given, would, he considers, be found necessary, as in many cases they are far too stilted, some of them objectionable, as interfering with old established dignities, and others as containing a religious and mythologic allusion, which might easily be, and should be avoided.

7. Perhaps in all cases a decoration should accompany a title, whether, says Mr. Forbes, such Oriental ensigns as the Kettle-drum and Pulkee, or such European badges as the ribbon and star. When the title is granted as a reward of official or literary distinction, or for good service, cases would probably occur in which substantial advantages should accompany it.

8. It would be necessary, he thinks, in some cases, to make titles hereditary. It is entirely the Hindoo feeling and practice that they should be so, and in the cases of landed proprietors of old family, and of other persons of property there would be no objection to hereditary honors being given.

9. Titles given for social position, he conceives, should be of the hereditary class; titles given for good conduct or special service, either hereditary or otherwise, according to circumstances, but more commonly only personal. If

we except the Peerage of Great Britain, which confers a seat in the Upper Chamber of the Legislature, there is nothing, he believes, in the principle upon which other hereditary and personal distinctions are conferred in England which is not equally applicable to British India.

10. It would probably be necessary in Mr. Forbes' opinion to have at least two orders. One very select, and the other available to be conferred for more ordinary merits. In the former, the number of titles in each grade should be limited ; in the latter, they should be unlimited.

11. All Patents of Dignity should, he considers, bear the signature either of the Queen, in the cases above mentioned, or of her personal representative, the Viceroy, or his Deputy in other cases. He does not think that the subordinate Governments should continue to exercise the power of conferring titles, as the practice destroys the unity of the system of honors.

12. Having gone through all the questions mooted by the Government of India, Mr. Forbes proceeds to notice one or two points, to which he thinks attention should be directed.

13. The relative precedence of English and Indian dignities, he observes, should be settled. A Native will not think much of the honors we confer upon him if he find that we look down upon them ourselves. The only means of avoiding this is to give the honors of British India a distinct position with reference to those which are worn among ourselves. It would have been very desirable, as it appears to him, for this and other reasons, that some orders should have been instituted, in which benefits done to India and distinction won therein, whether by European or Native, might be recognised, and where those who fight side by side in our wars, or labor together in our Civil Administration, might meet on a common ground of honor.

14. It also appears desirable to Mr. Forbes that the courtesy titles which are now granted to native officials in the Revenue and Judicial branches of the service should be examined and revised in accordance with the titles of honor which may be determined on. At present the highest of these titles seem to be rather in advance of what is required, and he should suppose the dignity of Khan Bahadoor or Rao Bahadoor would be found to be more than corresponding to that of Esquire, at which it is now fixed.

15. Finally, he would suggest that it will be necessary to the regular and proper working a system of Honorary Distinctions, that a College of Honors for British India be established at the Head Quarters of the Viceroy, the Masters and Members of which would devise and register all decorations, settle all questions of precedence, bear in person grants of Honors to Princes or other personages of sufficient importance, render professional assistance in tracing

the descent of Titles and property, and generally perform similar duties with those which are performed by the College of Herald's in England, with which they should be in communication.

Session Judge of Poona.—From inquiries made by Mr. Loughnan, he finds that under the Peishwa's Government, as well as under that of Satara, there was no title of whatever rank conferred as a rule on persons to be decorated. Titles were only rarely conferred, and the practice seems to have been to create for each occasion a new title.

2. As the proposed institution is intended to be confined to natives of India, he presumes that the titles to be selected should be those which already exist, or are understood in the country.

3. "The orders which now exist being of an exclusively military character, he considers it to be very desirable to constitute an order for deserving Civil Officers, which might perhaps be named after Her Majesty, and called 'the Order of "Victoria." The persons who already enjoy the official Titles of Khan or Rao Bahadoor and Khan Saheb or Rao Saheb should, he thinks, be included in the new order, which should, however, be divided into three classes, two of these being composed of persons bearing the above titles, and a higher class consisting of persons selected for special services, on whom the title of Wishwas Rao Bahadoor, if Hindoos, and Saheb-i-man Bahadoor, if Mahomedans, might be conferred.

4. A simple riband of scarlet color might be the distinguishing badge of the lowest class ; a medal, being the representation of the British Lion, that of the second class ; and a golden collar, adorned with representations of the Regalia and bust of Her Majesty, for the first class.

5. These distinctions should, in Mr. Loughnan's opinion, be entirely personal, and a certain number of associates only permitted in each class ; the number to be fixed according to the requirements of each Province. Of the number so fixed, a certain portion should be reserved for persons not in the Government service, who may distinguish themselves by such zeal, industry, and ability which tend to benefit society in general.

6. He would also suggest the registry of all sunnuds conferring the Titles of each class of the order, and the value of the stamp to be supplied by the candidate should be sufficient to cover the value of the insignia.

7. It would tend very greatly, he considers, to render the Government popular and beloved, were it found possible to confer hereditary titles and assign estates to support those titles on men of eminent distinction, and whose conduct in times of emergency entitles them to extraordinary rewards.

8. The Titles of Raja and Nawab might be conferred on such individuals, the estates assigned being entailed, and escheating to the Crown, on proved misconduct or failure of issue male, while the style of address to them might be the same as that now used in addressing their Highnesses Scindia, Holkar, and the Guickwar, &c.

9. The tastes of the people appear to Mr. Loughnan to have undergone so much change on the subject of equipage, and the pageantry of courts during the last 30 years, as to obviate the necessity for defining any rules to regulate these. Such matters may, he conceives, be left to the tastes and special idiosyncracies of the individuals on whom these prizes are bestowed.

The Session Judge of Tanna.—On the general subject of titles and rewards, Mr. C. J. Erskine makes the following observations :

1. From the questions circulated, it appears that the Government of India is about to take a comprehensive and a liberal survey of the whole question of Titles and Ranks—and, without running into the extreme opinions of Mr. Bentham and others, on national rewards, it is obvious that the subject is one of immense extent. The people of this country are habitually inert, and require more than other men to be stimulated artificially. There is little public opinion, and consequently little public spirit among them. Official promotions and distinction constitute almost the only kind of eminence to which they aspire—and they attach undoubtedly an extreme value to forms, dignities, and personal position. It is only politic in the Government to take advantage of these accidents in as far as that may legitimately be done. And if there has sometimes been a tendency to push these views to excess, and to confirm defects of character by over indulgence, it is equally necessary to avoid the opposite extreme of a pedantic abstinence from such sources of influence and power. Mr. Mill, in one of his books, has observed “ that the energies of mankind should be kept in employment by the struggle of riches” (and of ranks) “ as they were formerly by the struggle of war, until the better minds succeed in educating the others into better things, is undoubtedly more desirable than that they should rust and stagnate—while minds are coarse, they require coarse stimuli, and let them have them.” And, without alluding to ambitions of a higher order—to that desire of a fair fame which works in better minds—it is plain that the mere oriental fondness for display, the wish to be visibly exalted above other men (a poor substitute for self respect with too many in this country) finds its natural gratification in a race for worldly distinctions, and is apt, if no such stimulus be applied, to smoulder in discontent, that may readily be turned to disaffection. No feeling, of course, not even a petty feeling, can be unimportant if it works on large masses of men.

And since this weakness will be the opponent, if it be not claimed as the ally of improvement, it should no longer be ignored or neglected. Something should be done to enlist in the cause of order the stray passions which will turn to intrigue, if they be not invited to work. Some higher careers, too should be opened to natives of high character, and this, with as little delay as possible.

2. Taking it for granted, then, that these wants are acknowledged and are to be removed, may not a plan be adopted more comprehensive than that indicated by the questions of the Supreme-Government? May not the new influence be brought to bear upon all classes without exception? There seems to be no reason why it should not be applied to the rank and file of Society, as well as to the higher orders. It may be applied, for instance, to the population of rural districts, in the form of rewards or simple decorations to be awarded at public gatherings or fetes like those which have nourished among many European people, not only strength, activity, and generous tempers, but also (as in Switzerland and in some parts of England) many other homely virtues in the poor of both sexes (*e.g.* La Rosiere de Saleney). It may be applied publicly, as no doubt it will be, to the young of all ranks (not excluding the cultivating classes), as they are brought under the discipline of schools. It may be applied (as men have learned to apply it in Europe, and as local institutions in India would aid the local Governments in applying it) to those who are laboring by practice or study to improve the agricultural, mechanical, or commercial industries of the country. It may be applied, and is to be applied with the usual forms and ceremonies, to professional students, and to those who aspire to literary eminence. It may be applied, more directly by Government, to all the public servants of the State (and measures for this purpose were at one time under consideration). Finally, it may be applied, as the Supreme Government now propose, to the higher class of citizens in all walks of life in the form of titles and honorary privileges.

3. None of the minor kinds of public rewards just enumerated are alluded to in the questions forwarded with your circular, and perhaps therefore it is not expected that much should be said about them. Yet they are certainly not less important than mere titles of nobility, nor less deserving of early attention. Any endeavour, indeed, to create a quasi-aristocracy except as the highest order in an ascending gradation of rank, intelligence, and virtue, must be an endeavour to fix the capital of a pillar without base or shaft to support it. Such an attempt prematurely made may engender positive abuses. For great personal influence in this country (especially in rural districts) will, of course, owing to the pre-

vailing poverty of spirit and habit of submission among the ryots, be an influence almost uncontrolled in its own sphere. The despotic nature of such local influences, which there is nothing at hand to check in a community where all men are on a level; in other words, the slight restraints upon local oppression, seem to have struck M. de Jockueville more than any thing else in America, and of course in these provinces, where there is less force of character and less publicity, the risk of abuse will be greater. It is important, therefore, that any persons whom the Government may honor at the outset, should be men whom it can trust with the exercise of great personal authority. Nothing would more discredit the new system than repeated calls for interference with those whom it ennobles. If military prowess were still the chief requisite in a man of rank, it would be comparatively easy to select men really superior in that respect, and really capable of exercising the proper influence. But it is less likely that a high minded, liberal, temperate nobility will emerge from a lethargic and subservient people. While, therefore, steps are taken with due care even now to select men for higher distinctions, the greatest effort, I submit, should be directed towards the mass of the people from whom, after all, the final selection must be made. That is the tree of which the other will be the fruit; and the body with which the best member will sympathise. There seems to be no reason why native society should remain in its present state of prostration. To expect that the entire population will be speedily elevated, that any one now living will see diffused through many Indian tribes what Mr. Burke noted as the basis of national strength, "an austere and masculine morality," would of course be visionary. But more zealous efforts may be made to lead the people in that direction. This apparently is the work to be attempted first of all, and on a great scale. After that, other great works may be successful, but hardly before it.

4. Still the commencement of a scheme, like that now suggested, which can only develop itself gradually, need not on this account be delayed. The first results will probably be of doubtful success, under any circumstances—and it will be no disadvantage that the first experiment should be on a limited scale. It will be a great thing to ascertain by experience how the desire for honorable distinction can be made to work with the greatest power. That it is a great power, no one can doubt, who remembers what an amount of energy is often excited throughout a whole army by the prompt and public award of Honors. The spirit excited may be dangerous; but there is no doubt as to its motive force. Neither does any thing in the nature of the case suggest that the stimulus will operate only on the warlike and not on the peaceful energies of men. A cordial recognition of merit, for instance, in a public spirited physician,

or in a man who has executed (even as contractor) great public-works, with skill, rapidity, regard to the welfare of his laborers (numbered perhaps by thousands), would strengthen the hands of the Government by drawing able men to work in concert with it—and thus breaking to some extent the torpor of the community to which they belong, and these effects at least will follow even if the first recipients of favor be not men of the most distinguished merit. Favor indeed works chiefly as it is in excess of merit.

5. Turning in the next place to the nature of the rewards that should be made available, some principles appear to be self-evident.

6. In the first place, the rewards should be great rather than numerous. This has perhaps not been sufficiently remembered in India. Yet it is a mere truism. Great rewards only will operate over a large surface. The energies (for instance) of the crowds of young Englishmen who apply to the study of law are aroused by histories of Chief Justices and Lords Chancellor, not of country Court Judges. This no one denies—nor is it denied that great rewards only will stimulate great talents. The hope of an ordinary prize stirs only an ordinary ambition—yet what is the case in this country? The public establishments, hereditary and stipendiary, are enormous, both in respect to numbers and expense. Nevertheless, there is not in the gift of the Bombay Government a single office (usually open to natives) for which an enterprising and truly able man, to whom another career is open, would care to make a great exertion. Is it wonderful that there is a complete stagnation? Is it not the natural result of such a state of things? And if a great improvement be desired, must it not be freely paid for? Certainly, like other things worth having, it will not be obtained without cost. Considerable prizes, capable of exciting general emulation, can only be promoted by the exercise of considerable liberality.

7. But what considerable prizes is it possible to provide? The common incidents of an aristocracy, of course, and those which give it lustre in other countries, are great territorial possessions, and high political status. In regard to the former, it is unnecessary to say much, seeing that the Government on this side of India have no means of bestowing such possessions except in the form of assignments on the best source of public revenue, which it is not desirable to alienate, and which could be assigned only with such large reservations of the rights of underholders as would lead to frequent interferences (legal and direct), calculated to fret the quasi-landlords and to impair the dignity of their position. If there be any Jageerdars, petty Rajahs, or Nawabs in this Presidency, whose estates are unencumbered, and who are able and willing to travel under proper supervision, and so practically to educate

themselves in better dispositions than the atmosphere of their own places would develop, then a few such men, so trained, might form the best nucleus of a new nobility. For it is only reasonable to suppose, that a practice which has been so useful not only to young men of rank in the West, but to so many from Turkey, Egypt, and even Persia, would not be without its effect on the inhabitants of this country. Perhaps, however, it is now too late for this ; and no other estates that I know of, are at the disposal of the Government. Beyond the limits of our regulation territories, means may be found probably to multiply estates of moderate size, and those I believe, if not too large for the personal inspection of an active ruler, might be multiplied with great hopes of advantage.

8. As to political status, there is probably no intention of holding out immediate hopes of that. I merely submit, therefore, that with due caution, individuals might even now (from time to time) be selected, whose exaltation would be a source of strength. The presence of a man of uprightness and of practised business habits (like the late Sir Jamsetjee Jeejeebhoy in his prime) could not but be an acquisition even in the Legislative Council. Such men too are the best conservatives, and their co-operation would enable Europeans to deal more confidently with questions in which native feelings are concerned. It may be added, perhaps, with fiscal and financial questions. The admission of one such person to power would not imply that another must be named on his retirement or demise, unless a worthy and approved successor were available. Neither would it imply that the person named must reside continuously at Calcutta ; and again, in another branch of the public service (still distinct from the ordinary executive), a person might be found even now, whose presence as a Civil Judge in any Court of Appeal, wherein suits relative to natives are considered, would be of considerable advantage. As, however, it may not be intended that these subjects should be discussed, I merely add an expression of hope, that whatever be the nature of the rewards selected for bestowal with titles, special privileges in the form of exemptions from ordinary jurisdiction may not be of the number.

9. Since territorial possessions and political status are sparingly available, what substantial advantage can be accorded ? It is not easy to answer the question, especially as the grant of dignities (to all but professional men of eminence) should be accompanied with public employment of some kind, some practical active occupation. In one of Sir John Malcolm's works, there is a very forcible and earnest appeal to this effect, which is especially important, as the conclusion of one whose experience of the native character was so very wide. The management of a great estate and participation in the acts of a public

assembly are of course the best discipline for members of a privileged class. Failing these, there seems to be nothing better than high pensions to be held on condition of serving when required on local or special commissions and other public inquiries. An arrangement of this kind, if framed on a really liberal scale, might be of use. And if the status and advantages thus conferred, and the duties imposed, were regarded as a means of probation, whereby to test the capacities of certain persons for higher responsibilities, then the impulse of course would be more powerful. In this Presidency, especially, the presence of Parsees, and even of a Hindoo race (not Brahmins) having little sympathy with the Hindoos of Northern and Eastern India, seems to point to these districts as a fit theatre for such an experiment. Native gentlemen thus chosen and remunerated, might be required to reside for some months at a time in different districts, in order to ascertain the condition of the people, to report upon it, to bring suffering to light, and encourage efforts towards improvement. They might be useful in stimulating educational, municipal, and sanitary reforms, and minor public works of utility.

10. It does not seem desirable that any attempt should be made to establish an hereditary order at present. The necessity for providing occupation, and opening out a career to those first ennobled, and the difficulty of doing this on any considerable scale, would alone be a sufficient objection to such a proposal at present, as there is reason to fear that born nobles, if left unemployed amid the temptations common to their order in the East, might ere long be conspicuous only for what Lord Bacon terms "flags and pedigrees," if not also for indolence and discontent. Moreover, a privileged class, in such an extensive empire, would be apt, if hereditary, to increase too rapidly in numbers unless new distinctions were accorded with an unwise parsimony.

11. As to the Titles themselves, I have little to say. The three ranks already in use will answer for the lower grade. In regard to the higher grade, the Titles to be selected should not be antiquated relics of an obsolete past, nor grotesque applications of inappropriate European Titles, but rather designations not unfamiliar to the people, and capable nevertheless of being used in a new sense, with reference to the future.

It occurs to me to add that one of the chief elements of value in a public distinction is the promptitude with which it is awarded. And that a large discretion and authority should therefore be allowed to local Governors and Rulers of Provinces.

(Signed) C. J. ERSKINE,

Judge.

No. 29.

From His Excellency the Governor General of India, to the Right Hon'ble the Secretary of State for India, No. 27, dated Camp Meerut, the 24th December, 1859.

IN a Despatch, of the 8th ultimo, you refer to the difficulties which beset the question of bestowing Honors and Distinctions upon Native Princes and Chiefs, and you desire me to furnish you with my opinion as to the best means of keeping alive the feeling which Native Princes entertain of the importance of Honors emanating directly from the Crown of Great Britain.

2. The subject, which is a large one, has, as you will see by the enclosed papers, been for some months under the consideration of the Government of India. It embraces two very different kinds of distinction and reward, that conferred by a Title, whether hereditary or personal, and that conferred by an Order of Knighthood with its badges and insignia. I will state my views of each, with such observations, as some of the various proposals made in these papers appear to call for.

3. On the first head, the conferring of Titles, I am satisfied that it will be the best policy to adhere closely to the precise Titles already in use throughout India. I do not think that any success would attend an attempt to invent new Titles, or to modify the meaning and value of old ones. I should deprecate an endeavour to regulate them by any general rule for all India; for the same Titles have a different value absolutely and relatively, in different parts of the country, and some which are used in one part are not known in another. In each Local Government or Province, the designations and titles which have been almost immemorially in use should continue to be recognized and conferred. These Titles should, I submit, be in the disposal of the Queen's Representative in India. I do not think that any-thing would be gained by making the grant of the Titles of Maharajah and Nawab, or of any other Hindoo or Mahomedan Titles referrible to the Crown; and there would always be delay in doing so, and sometimes difficulty in conveying the full merits of the case referred.

4. All that is necessary as regards Native Titles is, that the Crown of England should be understood to assume to itself the

authority, and to invest itself with the trust heretofore claimed by the Emperors of Hindoostan over all their subjects and vassals whether Mahomedan or Hindoo; that this authority should be, exercised by the Crown's Representative in India, as in fact it always has been exercised by the Governor General; and that an official roll of all the rightful holders of Titles should be kept by the Government of India. In short, that as little change as possible be made in the practice which is already established, excepting in the preservation of a more formal and authoritative record of Titles actually recognized or granted than any which at present exists.

5. As to making Titles hereditary, I deprecate doing this in a country where the decadence of families is sudden and frequent, and where inheritance by primogeniture is not established. They are already often made hereditary in practice; but they should not be made so by rule and of right, unless in very exceptional cases.

6. I am equally opposed to attaching as a rule any land or grant of money or allowance to the grant of a Title. Where a substantial reward is due, it should be given; but not as the necessary accompaniment of a Title. The tendency in India to consider Honors as identical with profit is already too strong, and needs no encouragement.

7. I greatly hope that no intermixture of Eastern and Western Titles will take place; that Knighthoods (unconnected with any order) Baronetages, Baronies, and other Titles which are adapted to the laws, Government, and social condition of England, will not be grafted into our Indian system, and that the English styles of "Sir" and "Lord" will not be prefixed to Indian names. To say nothing of the incongruity of the conjunction, it is not our true object to denationalize India, and assuredly to create a new aristocracy, or Titled class, under foreign designations would wear the appearance of desiring this. It will be a sounder course and more consonant, I believe, with the feelings of the people at large, if the Crown of England, as the paramount power, accepts and shows respect for the Titles and designations which have for many centuries, and under various dynasties, prevailed through India, its representatives to make manifest that these Titles shall lose nothing of their dignity under the Crown's direct rule, and that they will be worthily and justly dispensed.

8. I am not prepared to say what should be the rules which should govern the grant of Indian Titles. Upon this point I wish to have the opinion of the Government of Bombay regarding the Titles of Western India, before speaking definitively. But the rules if any are necessary, should be as few as possible; and as observed by the Governor of Madras, we should take care not to over-systematize. I also concur in Sir Charles Trevelyan's suggestion that it is proper that all Titles should be given with the previous sanction of the Governor General. I do not consider that this is required as a check upon the Governments of Madras or Bombay, whose recommendations would probably be accepted in all cases; but because it is desirable that all upon whom Titles are conferred should derive them from the same common source, and that that source should be as near to the fountain of all Honor as can be conveniently provided. In this view it will be right that the Titles should be sanctioned by the Queen's Representative.

9. I will now speak of the second kind of honorary reward that which is conferred by an Order of Knighthood with its badges and insignia. I know no way in which the feeling of the Native Princes of India in regard to the value of Honors emanating from the Crown could be so surely kept alive as through the institution by the Crown of a high order of Chivalry, of which Her Majesty should be the Sovereign. I venture to think that the establishment by the Queen of such an order would be an act of wise policy, as well as of Royal Grace, and that the fitting time for it has arrived. But I am very strongly of opinion that, in order to give to such an institution its full good effect, it is indispensable that it should include within certain proportions and restrictions British-born subjects of Her Majesty, as well as the Native Chiefs of India. Indeed I should hesitate to recommend the creation of any order for the latter exclusively. I believe that it would be far less esteemed by them, than one in which distinguished Englishmen should be admitted to share, and that the feeling that it was not seen or known out of India, would greatly diminish its value in their eyes. I doubt whether it would be possible to convince them that a distinction thus limited to themselves was not held cheap by their English fellow subjects.

10. I am confirmed in this opinion by much that I have seen and heard within the last few months. It is not many days since an Officer in the familiar confidence of one of the most powerful and loyal Native Princes told me, that Chief had said to him that what he (the Chief), desired above all rewards was, that the Queen should confer upon him such an Order as Her Majesty would confer upon one of Her own servants. I believe that this feeling is almost universal amongst the natives of high rank, and that they would look coldly upon any Honor which should be assigned solely to Natives of India, however great in rank or power, those selected for it might be. I think it very fortunate that such a feeling exists, and I earnestly recommend that encouragement be shown to it.

11. This would be effected by the institution of a ^{high} Order of Knighthood, of a single class, limited in number, and that number divided according to a fixed rule, between English and Indian subjects, or feudatories of the Queen, who by good and loyal service rendered to the British Empire in India had deserved well of the Crown.

I think that a proper and convenient number of Indian Members of the Order would be twelve or fifteen, and that the number of English Members should not be limited to less than twelve. I would advise that not more than one-third of the whole number of English Members should be serving the Crown in India at any one time. A rule of this nature would be necessary to guard against a filling up of the whole number at once, the result of which would be that in a few years, owing to the conditions of Indian service, all would have left India, and there would be no English representatives of the Order in this country until vacancies by death occurred amongst those who had carried home their Honors. This is to be avoided, for it will certainly be desirable that so far as can be provided, the Native Chiefs who receive the Honor should have always before their eyes the fact that high English functionaries of the Crown are distinguished by the same Honor.

12. It should be established either by rule or practice, that only persons in the highest ranks of the Queen's service in India should be eligible to the Order.

13. If an Order of Knighthood upon some such scheme as that above suggested be instituted by the Crown for the reward and Honor of Chiefs and Natives of very high position, there will still be wanting the means of rewarding Natives of less eminent rank, but often of great public merit, such as minor Rajahs, influential and wealthy land-owners, and other proprietors, our own Native Civil Officers, and the Ministers and Officers of Native Governments.

I am of opinion that this will best be done by the institution of a separate Order of more general scope. But I recommend that this Order be not made a branch or second class of the higher Order, and that it be not instituted at the same time, nor until the higher Order is well established before the country. The value of the higher Order in the estimation of the Princes and Chiefs would be diminished by attaching to it one or more lower ranks consisting of many members; and the effect upon the public at large of creating at one stroke a variety of orders and decorations would probably be an impression that the Crown of England awards these Honorary Distinctions easily and cheaply. Such an impression once made would not soon be removed; and therefore, although it is to be regretted that there should be delay in providing the means of rewarding persons of those classes to which the secondary and more general Order would be open, I think that the evil of this will be much less than that of detracting from the importance of the first great Order of Chivalry instituted by the Queen in India. It is to be remembered too that, so far as concerns services rendered during the rebellion, there has not been any difficulty in rewarding already in some other way most of those who would come within the range of the secondary Order.

14. When the time shall arrive for establishing this Order, I think it will be found advisable to divide it into at least two grades to limit the numbers of each, and to make it open to English as well as to Indian subjects of Her Majesty. I do not think that any money allowance (as in the case of the Legion of Honor in France, and of the Military Order of British India) should be attached to it.

(Signed) CANNING.

